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SUSPECTS DENY VIA RAIL PLOT

TWO MEN ACCUSED IN AN ALLEGED CONSPIRACY TO DERAIL A PASSENGER TRAIN MAKE THEIR FIRST COURT APPEARANCES

PAGE 6



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Highway stops net big drug busts

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Canine counterparts assisted in 16 of 23 busts so far in 2013



Large amounts of drugs have already been seized by RCMP through routine traffic stops along Alberta's highways this year.

Nearly 181 kilograms of marijuana — enough to make 700,000 joints — along with substantial quantities of cocaine, heroin, oxycodone and crystal meth have been confiscated by the RCMP's Roving Traffic Unit (RTU) since the start of January.

"We've got half a million dollars in cash sitting on the table here, and millions of dollars worth of contraband," Supt. Howard Eaton of RCMP K Division said Tuesday during a press conference at headquarters in Edmonton.

"This all came off the highways," he said. "This is all stuff that's making its way through

Not just drugs

- Stolen credit cards, people with dementia and children being sexually exploited have also been found during these routine traffic stops, said RCMP Const. Ryan Frost.
- "Although that mountain of drugs looks really good, there are all forms of criminality that come from these traffic stops," he said.

Alberta either to a community in Alberta, or making its way past Alberta and to another community in Canada."

Other seized items noted by Eaton included mushrooms, 70,000 doses of GHB and a Beretta handgun along with two magazines.

In total, Eaton said 28 people are facing charges — three women and 25 men — mostly from Alberta and B.C.

The charges stem from traffic stops mostly in the Lake Louise and Jasper areas, with some also near Strathmore and Olds. The stops



Supt. Howard Eaton, officer in charge of traffic services with RCMP K Division, speaks to reporters at headquarters in Edmonton on Tuesday. Eaton was highlighting work done by traffic members over the last few months along Alberta's highways, which has resulted in the seizure of drugs, cash and weapons. HEATHER MCINTYRE/METRO

were performed by RTU members, who patrol any stretch of Alberta's 41,000 kilometres of roads.

According to RCMP Const. Ryan Frost, much of the activity is on west-east highways.

"Certainly the flow of

contraband in the province is primarily west to east because that's how Canada is built," said Frost. "There are highways in the province that move north-south though, and some of this contraband is from there."

There are 190 traffic-service members in the RCMP serving throughout the province, said Eaton.

"Traffic-enforcement members play a key role in crime reduction and illegal activities," said Eaton. "They

do speeding tickets, they do following too close, they do unsafe lane changes, they do impaired drivers and, when they get a car stopped, they have the skills and the training to take it to the next step.

"And this is the result."

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Four-year agreement

Public school board takes a U-turn, OKs deal

In a five-to-four vote, Edmonton public school board trustees voted to support the province's deal with Alberta teachers on Tuesday afternoon.

In March, the same board recommended provincial school boards reject the proposal.

"I absolutely stand by the position that we took at that time that the (Alberta School Board Association) should not be endorsing the proposal," said Board Chair Sarah Hoffman at Tuesday's board meeting.

Tuesday's vote to ratify the four-year agreement came after debate between the trustees, which included talk of the province's comfort letter.

Hoffman told the board that while the province's comfort level isn't "as comforting" as she would like, she's glad that there is one.

Hoffman said she was willing to support the proposal "with reservations and disappointment."

Earlier this month, Edmonton Public Teachers Local 37, the bargaining unit representing Edmonton public teachers, voted to support the deal.

The tentative deal was announced by the province and the Alberta Teachers' Association in March, after more than two years of negotiations.

It includes a freeze on teachers' salaries for three years and a limit on teachers' working hours.

The agreement states teachers' salaries will be increased by two per cent in 2015.

ANNALISE KLINGBEIL/METRO

Seriously, slow down: City police

From 216 km/h on the Anthony Henday to 120 km/h in a 50 km/h zone along Jasper Avenue, some Edmonton drivers have a need for speed.

As the snow melts, the number of motorists driving in excess of posted speed limits is increasing, says Edmonton Police.

"It just boggles my mind, to be honest, that these folks are out there risking their

own lives and that of others," said Acting Staff Sgt. Gary Lamont of the EPS Traffic Section.

Police and the Office of Traffic Safety are using all tools at their disposal — from the help of an Air-1 helicopter to unmarked police vehicles — to nab speeders.

Officers released several images of drivers caught in recent weeks at excessive

speeds, and Gerry Shimko, executive director of the Office of Traffic Safety, said each picture has a story behind it.

In the case of a BMW clocked at 216 km/h on the Anthony Henday, there was a second vehicle involved, which police were not able to stop.

"We had two vehicles. It looked like they were racing," he said. ANNALISE KLINGBEIL/METRO



A vehicle driving 216 km/h in a 100 km/h zone on Anthony Henday Drive. CONTRIBUTED

Critics say Redford has rewarded win with lies

One-year anniversary.

Opposition parties claim premier has reneged on every kind of promise

Consecutive wins

12

Redford's victory a year ago represented the 12th consecutive victory for the Progressive Conservatives

Premier Alison Redford's Tories marked the anniversary of their 2012 election victory on Tuesday, as opposition critics labelled it a year marred by broken promises and betrayal.

Liberal house leader Laurie Blakeman said part of her wanted to see Redford soar.

"I wanted her to do well. I didn't want her to win (a strong majority), but I wanted the first woman premier of Alberta to be amazing," said Blakeman.

"What I got is destruction. It's not what I was expecting to get. Betrayal is what we got."

On April 23, 2012, Redford led the Progressive Conservatives to a 61-seat majority. The Opposition Wildrose won 17 ridings, while the Liberals took five and the NDP four.

The NDP and Liberals say that in the year since her vic-

tory, Redford has backtracked on promises for, among other things, health care, education and full-day kindergarten.

The Wildrose says Redford, after promising a balanced budget and no debt, delivered a deficit budget on March 7 that plans for \$17 billion in debt over the next four years for infrastructure spending.

A promise to reinvest in post-secondary education became a seven per cent cut to operating grants for schools.

Redford has said lower-than-expected oil prices forced her government to scale back spending and that the province needs to take on debt because 100,000 newcomers arrive each year and need schools, hospitals and roads.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Premier Alison Redford marked one year since her election win Tuesday, but opposition leaders said it has been a year of broken vows. METRO FILE

1 NEWS

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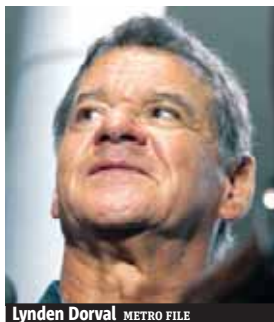
After public consultation, Edmonton public school trustees have approved a student-assessment policy that allows teachers to hand out zeros.

The revised student assessment, achievement and growth policy states student marks can include percentages from zero to 100 per cent and letter grades of A, B, C and D.

The policy was approved by trustees Tuesday afternoon.

Last year, Ross Sheppard High School teacher Lynden Dorval was suspended then fired after he refused to stop grading with zeros.

After the no-zero incident, which made headlines across Canada, the school board launched a review of the assessment policy that has included public consultation via an online survey and a phone-in town hall meeting.

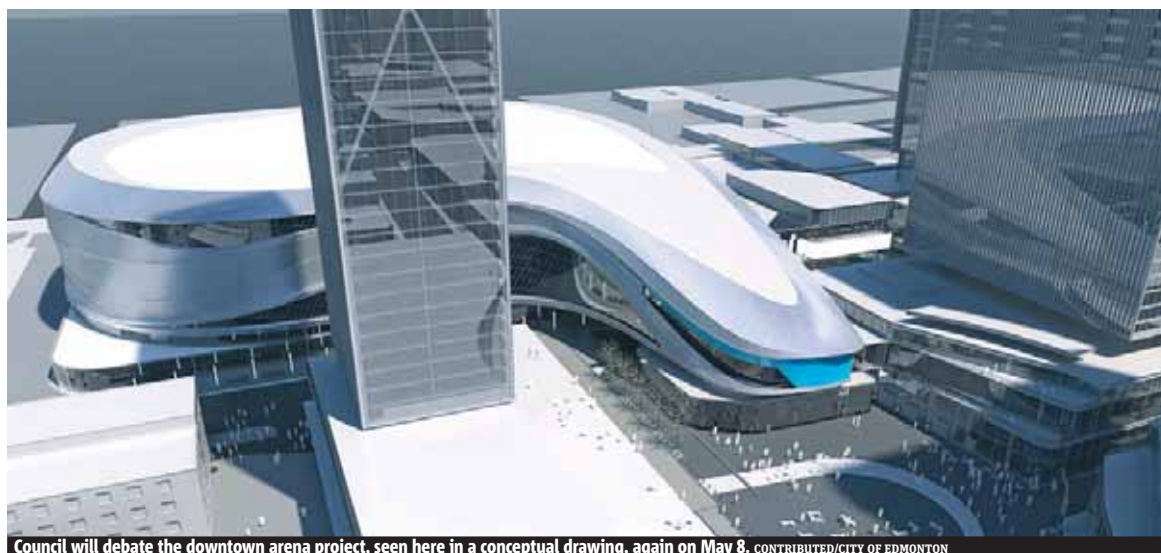


Lynden Dorval METRO FILE

The parent council at Ross Sheppard is happy with the new policy, said trustee Christopher Spencer at the meeting.

"I'm looking forward to moving forward with increased clarity and vision in our district on assessment," said trustee Heather MacKenzie.

ANNALISE KLINGBEIL/METRO



Council will debate the downtown arena project, seen here in a conceptual drawing, again on May 8. CONTRIBUTED/CITY OF EDMONTON

Councillors not sold on community levy

Pee-yew popular

Smelly flower attracts 3,400

A total of 3,400 people came out to see — and smell — a rare flower at Edmonton's Muttart Conservatory on Monday.

The facility extended its hours, from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., to accommodate the interest in Putrella the Corpse Flower, an eight-foot-tall endangered flower that is native to Sumatra.

There was an hour-plus wait later on in the evening too, said a spokesperson.

HEATHER MCINTYRE/METRO

Double homicide

Teen testifies he and another boy are innocent

A teen has testified he was with a boy accused of killing two people near Edmonton, but says they had nothing to do with the deaths. The 18-year-old told court Tuesday they had run away from a treatment facility run by Bosco Homes. But he testified they never saw Barry Boenke or Susan Trudel on the property. Their bodies were there the next day. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Arena funding. Province should help pay for project, city councillors say



RYAN TUMILTY
ryan.tumilty@metronews.ca

Using dollars from the proposed community revitalization levy is one option to fund \$55 million still missing in the arena deal, but not a popular one with Ed-

monton city councillors.

An update on the deal itself will now go to council May 8, but the proposed levy will be debated Wednesday.

The levy is meant to capture an expected increase in property values around the arena to pay for part of the project, along with other improvements downtown.

The current city deal already commits \$140 million in levy funds to the \$480 million project.

At minimum, the levy is estimated to generate \$612 million, but the city only

Gap

\$55M

Amount still missing in the arena deal.

identified \$459 million in projects.

Coun. Tony Caterina said he wouldn't support it, but wouldn't be surprised to see that raised as an option for the missing funds.

"I am expecting somebody might bring that forward," he said Tuesday.

Coun. Bryan Anderson said the mayor has been consistent that the province needs to step up.

"He isn't interested in putting any more city money in, he doesn't want to take the province off the hook," said Anderson.

Coun. Kim Krushell said the levy would work, but there is a bigger question.

"We do have some ways to address this gap," she said. "The question for councillors (is), I think: Is there a provincial role to play here?"

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Cost of Borrowing is \$0. Example price includes Delivery and Destination of \$1,495. Registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. †Price of models shown 2013 Accent 4 Door GLS Auto/Elantra Limited/Veloster Tech 6-speed MT/Santa Fe 2.0T Limited AWD is \$20,094/\$24,794/\$24,694/\$40,259. Prices include Delivery and Destination charges of \$1,495/\$1,495/\$1,495/\$1,760. Registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ‡Price adjustments of up to \$500 available on 2013 Elantra Sedan. Price adjustments applied before taxes. Offer cannot be combined or used in conjunction with any other available offers. Offer is non-transferable and cannot be assigned. 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Men deny VIA Rail terrorist plot; 'Let police do their job,' dad says

Al-Qaida in Iran to blame? Two charged over alleged plan to hit passenger train appear in court

Two men charged in an alleged al-Qaida-supported terror plot to attack a VIA Rail passenger train disputed the allegations against them Tuesday as they made their first appearances in court.

Raed Jaser, 35, and Chiheb Esseghaier, 30, are facing several terrorism charges each in what the RCMP is calling the first known alleged plot in Canada directed by the terrorist organization.

Esseghaier, who appeared in court in Montreal, stood calmly in the witness box and asked to address the court.

"The conclusions were made based on acts and words which are only appearances," he said.

The judge, Pierre Labelle,



Talk about a media scrum! John Norris, Raed Jaser's lawyer, is surrounded by microphones and cameras at a Toronto courthouse on Tuesday. Jaser is seen in a court sketch at bottom right. Co-accused Chiheb Esseghaier, top right, attended court in Montreal. Both are charged in what the RCMP says is the first alleged al-Qaida plot in Canada. TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES (LEFT); THE CANADIAN PRESS



explained it wasn't the right venue for his remarks.

Both Esseghaier and Jaser are charged with conspiracy to murder for the benefit of a terrorist group, participat-

ing in a terrorist group and conspiring to interfere with transportation facilities for the benefit of a terrorist group. Esseghaier faces an additional count of partici-

pating in a terrorist group.

If convicted, they could be sentenced to life in prison.

Several family members attended Jaser's brief Toronto court appearance.

"Of course I am supporting my son, of course," said his father, Mohammed Jaser, as about two dozen journalists surrounded him. "Let the police do their job."

Jaser and Esseghaier were charged Monday in an alleged plot that the RCMP said involved "direction and guidance" from al-Qaida in Iran.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tragic Rehtaeh. Teen's grieving family makes a pilgrimage to Ottawa

Rehtaeh Parsons' family met with Prime Minister Stephen Harper privately Tuesday to discuss changes to the criminal code in the wake of their daughter's death.

Rehtaeh's father, Glen Canning, said after the meeting he doesn't know what the federal government can or will do.

But he said the meeting with Harper was "heartfelt" and he was convinced the Prime Minister cares about his daughter's case.

Rehtaeh's family alleges she was sexually assaulted at a party and images of the 15-year old were transmitted online.

Earlier this month, she attempted to hang herself and was taken off life support days later.

The family wants the criminal code changed to stop the Internet transmission of such intimate images without consent.

ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO IN OTTAWA



Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter, right, arrives on Parliament Hill with Rehtaeh Parsons' family on Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Boston bombing. Jihad websites held a deadly allure for both suspects

The dead Boston bombing suspect, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, was an ardent reader of jihadist websites and extremist propaganda, U.S. officials said Tuesday.

And evidence suggests he and his wounded brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, were both motivated by an anti-American, radical version of Islam, the officials said.

Officials said Tamerlan, 26, frequently looked at extremist sites, including Inspire magazine, an English-language online publication produced by al-Qaida's Yemen affiliate. The magazine has endorsed lone-wolf terror attacks.

Meanwhile, 19-year-old Dzhokhar — suffering from a gunshot wound to the throat — was questioned in hospital by investigators, who let him write down his replies.

Dzhokhar has been charged with using and conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Faraway tears



U.S. investigators travelled to southern Russia on Tuesday to talk to the parents of the Boston bomb suspects.

- **Mother.** The suspects' mother, Zubeidat Tsarnaeva (above), appeared outside her home for the first time since the furor.
- **Sadness.** She is in "very bad shape" and cries as she watches video of her dead son, said rights activist Heda Saratova.

The Associated Press

Hackers hit U.S. news giant, claim Obama injured

Hackers compromised Twitter accounts of The Associated Press on Tuesday, sending out a false tweet about an attack at the White House.

It said there had been two explosions and Barack Obama was injured.

AP spokesperson Paul Colford said the news co-operative is working with Twitter to investigate the issue. AP has disabled its other Twitter accounts following the attack, Colford added.

The Syrian Electronic Army claimed responsibility for the hack. This couldn't be corroborated.

The FBI has opened an investigation into the incident, spokesperson Jenny Shearer said. She declined to elaborate.

The SEA has taken credit for a string of Web attacks on media targets it sees as sympathetic to Syria's rebels.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The public eye

PM's wife is a little envious of Justin's wife Sophie

Laureen Harper has no tips for the Trudeau about raising a young family in the public eye.

In fact, Harper says, she could probably take lessons from newly elected Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau's wife, Sophie.

"I wouldn't give her any advice, they are more public," Laureen Harper said in a recent interview at 24 Sussex Drive.

"She would walk down the street and people know her. I walk down the street and nobody would know me."

Sophie Trudeau is a former model and television host, well-known in Quebec if not in the rest of the country.

Justin Trudeau, of course, has been in the public spotlight since the day he was born; his father Pierre Trudeau was Canada's loved-and-loathed prime minister at the time.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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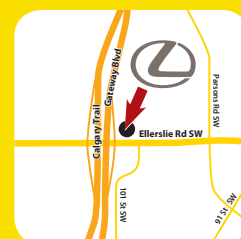
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Lewd photos. Threat of distribution enough to coerce girls, says prof

Threats to distribute naked pictures of six teen girls allegedly made by two accused teen pimps would have been enough to coerce the girls into prostitution, said a University of Ottawa bullying expert Tuesday.

"The shunning and fear of that instills more fear than having a sexual encounter with a stranger. That speaks volumes," said Tracy Vaillancourt, with Canada Research Chairs, who studies bullying and peer victimization.

"Girls bully other girls and call them sluts. That's the worst that you could be called in a sense," she said, pointing out the alleged victims would have an easier time keeping one-on-one sexual encounters private than having lewd photos of themselves distributed online.

"They threatened to steal my stuff and tell people what I did and probably send the pictures out to people," one alleged victim told a defence lawyer at the courthouse Tuesday.

GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO IN OTTAWA



The threat of having lewd photos distributed online can be enough to coerce girls into prostitution, says an expert on bullying. ISTOCK IMAGES

Teen wanted to walk on wild side: Lawyer

Trial. Defence lawyer's barb leaves alleged pimping victim in tears; says she feared blackmail and abuse



GRAHAM LANKTREE
Metro in Ottawa

A teen girl allegedly pimped out by two others was taking a walk on the wild side when she met two johns and got in too deep, a defence lawyer charged Tuesday before the girl began to sob on the witness stand.

"Word got out on the street that (accused one) and (accused two) were spending time with men, being escorts and getting paid for it," said attorney Ken Hall, as he suggested what happened the night of May 18, 2012, when the 17-year-old girl says she

was sexually exploited.

"The turning point was when man two brought the white lines out," said Hall, referring to the second man the girl encountered and her testimony that he had white lines of powder on a table in his apartment connected to a warehouse in Ottawa's east end. "That's when the whole house of cards came crashing down. That scared you?"

The teen indicated she was scared of him already, since he was more than twice her age and suspected the white powder may have been cocaine. "I wanted to get out of there already. But it made it scarier for me," she said before she asserted she didn't lie in her statement to police.

The two girls are among three teens accused of pimping out six teen girls between May 18 and June 3, 2012. The trio face a litany of charges including human trafficking.



"She came over, we had pizza. We had vodka cranberry," an alleged john says of his meeting with a 15-year-old girl during testimony in an Ottawa courtroom. She is one of three teens accused of pimping out six teen girls not much younger or older than themselves. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Facebook fracas

Politician gets apology after being ejected from legislature

The Speaker of the Newfoundland and Labrador legislature apologized Tuesday for concluding that an NDP politician was in contempt for being a member of a Facebook group where someone else posted an allegedly threatening comment against Premier Kathy Dunderdale.

Ross Wiseman said he was sorry after ejecting Gerry Rogers from the legislature last week.

Wiseman said since his initial ruling, he has learned that it is possible that people can become members of Facebook groups without consent.

Rogers was suspended from the legislature last Tuesday after she refused to apologize for being a member of a Facebook group called "Kathy Dunderdale must go!" At the time, she said she was added to the group without her agreement or knowledge by someone she didn't know.

Rogers said Tuesday she accepts Wiseman's apology. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Korean War. Canadians honoured during 60th anniversary of armistice

There doesn't seem to be any other place in the world where perpetual enemies stare at each other in plain sight, with their feet firmly cemented to the ground and rock-hard fists at the ready for a battle that could come any minute — or not at all.

The Korean War still hasn't officially ended even after North and South Korea agreed to a ceasefire nearly 60 years ago. To this day, Republic of Korea guards keep watch on their neighbour to the north, whose main building lies just a stone's throw away within the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

So what's stopping soldiers on either side from jumping at each other's throats?

"Not much," says Korean War veteran Frank Bayne.

The former second lieutenant from Guelph visited the DMZ with 35 other Canadian veterans Tuesday as part of a commemorative trip organized by Veterans Affairs Canada to mark the 60th anniversary of the armistice. He said he was one of the few troops who fired the final rounds of ammunition the day it was signed in 1953.

"So at midnight we all fired

Honouring our heroes

Dozens of young military personnel at Sang-Seung Observation Point in South Korea greeted the Canadian delegation with open arms at a briefing, which concluded with a moving video expressing their gratitude to Canadian forces.

and then we went off and got drunk," said Bayne with a chuckle.

The trip comes as North Korea's Kim Jong-un has unleashed new threats to ignore the armistice and unleash a nuclear strike on South Korea.

But Bayne says Jong-un is merely flexing his muscles.

"People said to me, 'Aren't you afraid to go back?' I said hell no," recalled Bayne while on a bus departing the DMZ. "I think he's bluffing. I think he's trying to get concessions. He wants the world to know he can make the United States and the world talk to him as equals."

JOE LOFARO/METRO IN SEOUL



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Forecast. Canada Post could have billion-dollar losses by 2020, report says

A think-tank commissioned by Canada Post is warning that the Crown corporation will be losing \$1 billion a year by the end of this decade.

The Conference Board of Canada says the postal service is being hit by a dramatic reduction in volumes in the age of digital communication.

It estimates that the volume of bills, invoices, advertising and publications handled by Canada Post will decline by more than 25 per cent by 2020.

The volume of parcel delivery is expected to buck the trend and grow by 26 per cent due to online shopping, but the Conference Board says it won't be enough to offset the revenue lost in other areas.

The report estimates \$576



New stamps commemorating classic Canadian rock bands including The Tragically Hip, Rush, The Guess Who and Beau Dommage will be available July 19. CANADA POST/THE CANADIAN PRESS

million a year could be saved by the elimination of door-to-door delivery for urban homes that get it — about one-third of Canada's households.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liquid gold. Thief makes off with rare scotch worth \$26K

Toronto police are looking for a thief with expensive taste.

They say a man went into a downtown liquor store earlier this month and went to the vintage section, where he selected a rare bottle of 50-year-old Glenfiddich Single Malt scotch.

The 700-millilitre bottle, which was in a glass case, is worth \$26,000. Police say the



Glenfiddich 50 Year Old GETTY IMAGES FILE

man then selected a bottle of wine and paid for that, but left the store without paying for the scotch.

A security-camera image of the suspect is posted on the police website. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute



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Loyalty program

Outgoing CEO says Rogers needs to 'significantly' up customer service

Rogers Communications says it plans to launch a loyalty rewards program this year, as part of a bid to improve its relationship with customers.

Outgoing CEO Nadir Mohamed said Tuesday the wireless, cable and media company needs to improve its customer service "significantly."

We "will actually further work to reinforce this idea that we value our customers (and) we reward our customers for staying with us," he told reporters in Toronto, before the company's annual meeting.

Some longtime customers have turned to the customer-service department to request discounts on their payments. They want the company to demonstrate that the company "values their tenure," he said.

While details of the rewards program weren't revealed, a broad range of the telecom company's services will be recognized in the program. It will also extend to its banking and credit-card services, expected to launch sometime this year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Nadir Mohamed, outgoing CEO of Rogers Communications, speaks at the company's AGM in Toronto on Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS



India's outsourcing firms face U.S. backlash

Hewlett-Packard employees work at the company's Business Process Outsourcing centre in Bangalore, India, in this 2007 photo. For years, India's multibillion-dollar outsourcing industry skated over criticism that it was eliminating white-collar jobs in rich nations. Now, the industry's long-held fears of a backlash are being realized in its crucial U.S. market. Provisions in an overhaul of U.S. immigration law will close loopholes that allow outsourcing companies, both Indian and American, to pay guest workers in the U.S. at rates often below wages for equivalent-level Americans. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Foreign workers program is meant for high-skilled positions, Carney says

Last hurrah. At his final appearance before the finance committee, BoC governor tackles variety of sensitive subjects



Mark Carney at a finance committee hearing, Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney says the controversial temporary foreign workers program should not be used to drive wages down or to fill lower-skilled jobs.

Speaking to the Commons finance committee for the last time before his departure for London in June, Carney said the intent of the program is that it be used primarily to fill needs for high-skilled jobs tem-

porarily, until businesses can train Canadians to take over.

In a two-hour appearance Tuesday, Carney used the occasion to touch on a number of

politically sensitive subjects, including the government's move to increase tariffs on imports from 72 countries, the labour market, the Canada-U.S. price gap, and the contentious foreign-workers program.

The challenge of a skills shortage is not unique to Canada, Carney said, but the solution is training — not bringing

RBC outsourcing furor

- The foreign-workers program became a hot potato for the federal government after an outsourcing company doing work for the Royal Bank of Canada brought in foreign workers to do work that had been done by about 45 Canadians at the bank.

in temporary foreign workers. Contrary to some views, he added, Canada's labour market is among the most flexible in terms of mobility among industrialized countries.

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If you're having a bad day here on Earth, consider the alternative.

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Applications are now open for people who want to be the first settlers on Mars.

It may sound like science fiction, but Mars One, the company offering the gig, swears they'll have you there by 2023, which is only a decade away.

But there's a catch.

Mars One has the technology to get you there, but the technology to get you home doesn't exist.

It's like that Eagles anthem, Hotel California. "You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave."

So it's a one-way ticket to the Red Planet.

I don't know about you, but I've always wanted to go to Mars, I'm just not sure I want to be stuck there.

At first blush, it sounds romantic, but sometime



JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca

around year four, you might want to order in pizza or hit the clubs, and whaddaya know? No pizza parlours. No clubs.

Just more of that astronaut food that tastes like Tang and dog biscuits.

Therefore, Mars One is looking for a special kind of person.

Someone who is nuts enough to spend the rest of his or her life stuck in a climate-controlled hut the size of a portable toilet but well-adjusted enough not to try to eat his or her fellow castaways.

If you're that kind of person, Mars One is for you.

All you need to do is convince the Mars

One people that you're the best nutbar of all the nutbars applying for the nutbar job, plus you've got the \$33 registration fee. Deadline is Aug. 31, 2013.

Before you sign up, you should know that the average temperature on Mars is -55 C.

That will give applicants from Siberia and Canada the inside track. If you're from Novosibirsk or Winnipeg, it will feel just like home.

Other than thicker than normal heads or blood, applicants require no special skills, as they will spend seven years training and getting ready.

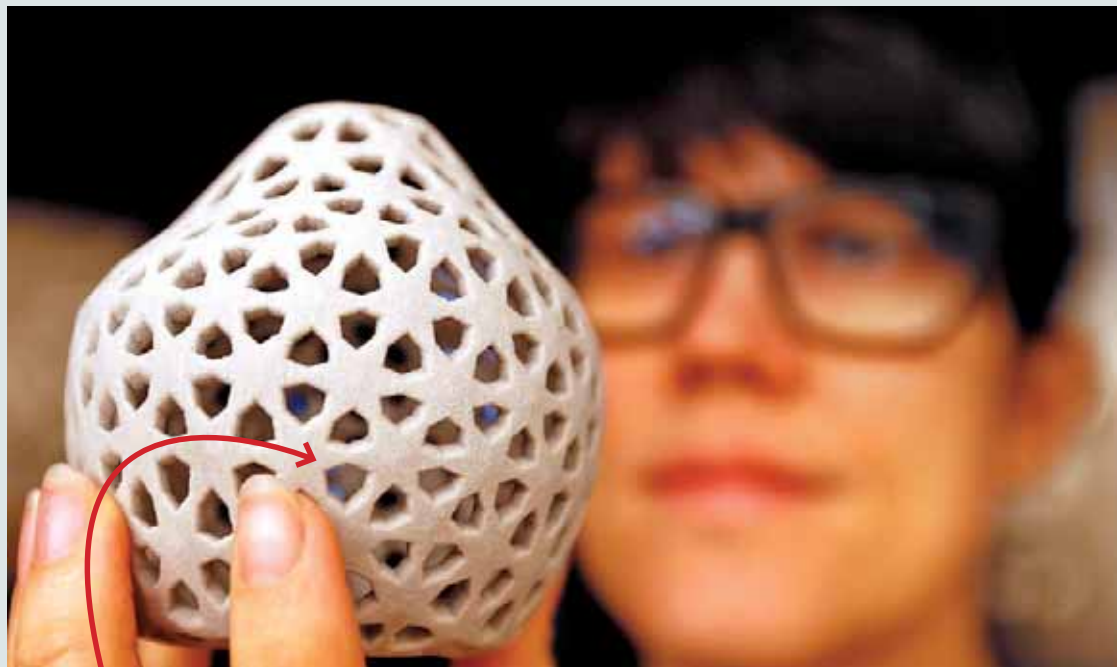
So, as you'd expect, the gallery of geeks featured on the Mars One website are all cut from the same cloth: basement-dwellers with bad facial hair. And that includes the women, with the clear exception of Ilona, 23, from Finland. You could almost imagine spending the next 63 years in a hermetically sealed bin with Ilona, who says she wants to devote herself to the good of mankind and enjoys the humour that comes from well-crafted subtlety.

Such as the prospect of being stuck on Mars with Jason, 24, from the U.S., who has an associate degree in welding and aspires to a bachelor's degree in welding engineering, for the rest of her life.

Somehow I think all this is going to end in tears. Too bad that on Mars, no one can hear you scream.

ZOOM

Would you like insects with that?



KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tastes like chicken

Designer Penelope Kupfer displays a biscuit made from insect flour at the Wellcome Collection in London, England, on Tuesday.

The exhibition of illuminated, room-high insect traps, dramatic light projections of creepy crawlies and 3D printing of food made from bugs is a

new installation called Insects au Gratin which explores the benefits of eating bugs, as part of a new series called Who's the Pest? organized with Festival — the cultural organization dedicated to our relationship with insects and the natural world.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Slimy yet satisfying

Have you ever imagined yourself on Fear Factor, eating bugs? The exhibit aims to expand our invertebrate consumption by suggesting that entomophagy (eating insects) is a sustainable solution to an

impending food crisis.

Apparently, insects can be nutritious: four grasshoppers provide the same amount of calcium as a glass of milk. And, by weight, dung beetles have more protein than beef.

The installation, which runs through May 5, allows guests to draw the shape of their food and experiment with 3D printing. METRO

Clickbait



HANNAH ZITNER

hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

If you haven't already experienced the amazingly awkward Experience Regina tourism video with its still shots of high school graduation, the 'snax' bar and a bikini-clad Prairie babe, check it out on YouTube. In light of the Queen City video's fresh press (though the video is from 2008) we've dug up more tourism fails (or works of genius) from the video-sharing site.



JENELLEBOYCE/Flickr

Woody Goomsba visits Leavenworth, WA:

"Shouting out to the centre of the state" certainly is done best to rap music with kilt wearing ladies grinding a wooden mascot named Woody Goomsba while Mrs. Goomsba looks on angrily.

boys and retired tourists — and also, a lot of people wearing florescent crop tops. Can you find dancer Karen Campbell?

Vancouver Tourism with Karen Campbell:

According to Vancouver Tourism's ancient video, Vancouver is the 'simply spectacular' land of mermaids, cow-

Pattaya Country: OK, maybe not 'everybody' is dancing, but certainly this young Thai boy is getting his groove on in Pattaya, Thailand. But it seems like there's only enough for one dancer in this South Asian destination — as he steps back from provincial lines, his moves seem to go with him.

Comments

RE: How The World Will Change In 2043: We'll Turn Into Bots And Upload Our Memory, published April 22

I think those futurists are a bit looney and need to be taken back to the lunatic asylum for their meds. I'm sorry I might work in IT but I prefer keeping the hardware outside of my flesh. Uploading our memories to the Internet in a cloud-based system would be a bad idea. Would you want a hacker to be able to hack into your brain directly? As for people switching limbs out for

robotic limbs, I don't see that happening. If I hold hands with a girl I want it to be her physical hand not a metal plastic monstrosity unless she was in some sort of accident.

Taggart Romkey posted to metronews.ca

"Progeny of the oblivious"? Sorry but the future children you talk about won't be oblivious to their world just because their parents are. Look at the current youth generation difference and their parents which you also comment on. The apple does fall far from the tree, and then rolls off in another direction.

DaleWale posted to metronews.ca

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: Send us your comments: edmontonletters@metronews.ca

Interview

The American dream, plus a lap dance or two

If anyone is living the American dream, it's Bar Paly. In the last few years, the Israeli actress and model has been landing increasingly bigger roles in TV and film, including parts in *How I Met Your Mother* and *The Starter Wife*, and in the film *A Glimpse Inside the Mind of Charles Swan III*.

So it seems fitting that her biggest project to date is a dark riff on the American dream. *Pain & Gain* is a true crime story about a group of bodybuilders (dubbed the Sun Gym Gang) doing bad things in mid 1990s Miami.

In the film, Paly plays a stripper with big ambitions of becoming a Hollywood star, and she admits it was intimidating walking onto a set with a list of big names.

"It was so overwhelming," she says. "And on top of that you have to act against Mark Wahlberg. I was trying to pretend that everything is cool, but inside I was screaming 'I'm reading lines with Wahlberg.'"

"In the first few days he gave me the scenes where I didn't have to actually talk too much, it was more the lap dance and sex scenes," she says, laughing. "It was like, 'Hi, nice to meet you Mark Wahlberg, now here's my hair in your face while I give you a lap dance.'"

LIZ BROWN/
METRO



Robert De Niro and Diane Keaton star as a divorced couple in *The Big Wedding*. HANDOUT

Nuptials often turn nasty going down theatre aisles

The Big Wedding. The latest big screen effort is just one in a long line of movies where hilarity and horror dominate the story

Famous quotes

"Don Corleone, I am honoured and grateful that you have invited me to your home on the wedding day of your daughter. And may their first child be a masculine child."

Luca Brasi

In the famous wedding scene in *The Godfather*



IN
FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

In *The Big Wedding*, a long-divorced couple, played by Robert De Niro and Diane Keaton, pretend to be happily married at their adopted son's wedding for the benefit of his biological mother.

Hijinks ensue, but like all movies with the word "wedding" in the title, audiences don't buy a ticket for the shenanigans. They go to see the ceremony.

Anything that happens before the walk down the aisle is window dressing, the jour-

ney that gets the audience where they really want to be — at the altar.

The famous wedding scene in *The Godfather* — including the much-quoted Luca Brasi line, "Don Corleone, I am honoured and grateful that you have invited me to your home on the wedding day of your daughter. And may their first child be a masculine child," — featured many Staten Island Italian-Americans as extras.

They were invited to the set to enjoy homemade wine, traditional Italian food and enjoy themselves as though it were a real wedding.

Inspiration for the film

Four Weddings and a Funeral came when writer Richard Curtis realized he had been to 72 weddings in 10 years.

The movie, about a confirmed bachelor who discovers love, made an international star of Hugh Grant, who won the role after auditioning with a tape from when he was best man at his brother's wedding.

Both those films, plus others like *Wedding Crashers*, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* and *Fiddler on the Roof* feature wonderful wedding scenes. But what about when nuptials turn nasty?

Who could forget Mr. Robinson howling, "You punk!

You crazy punk! I'll kill you!" at the lovesick Benjamin (Dustin Hoffman) in *The Graduate* after he interrupted the wedding of Elaine Robinson (Katharine Ross) to another man? Elaine leaves her intended at the altar, running off with Ben to an uncertain future, creating one of the classic endings in movie history.

In *Runaway Bride* Richard Gere plays a reporter investigating the story of Maggie Carpenter, a serial bride who has had multiple disastrous weddings, leaving three men at the altar. "Always a bride," she says, "never a bridesmaid!"

The biggest bummer wedding in movie history has to be in *Kill Bill Vol. 2*.

"How it happened, who was there, how many got killed and who killed them, changes depending on who's telling the story," says *The Bride* (Uma Thurman). "In actual fact, the massacre didn't happen during a wedding at all. It was a wedding rehearsal."

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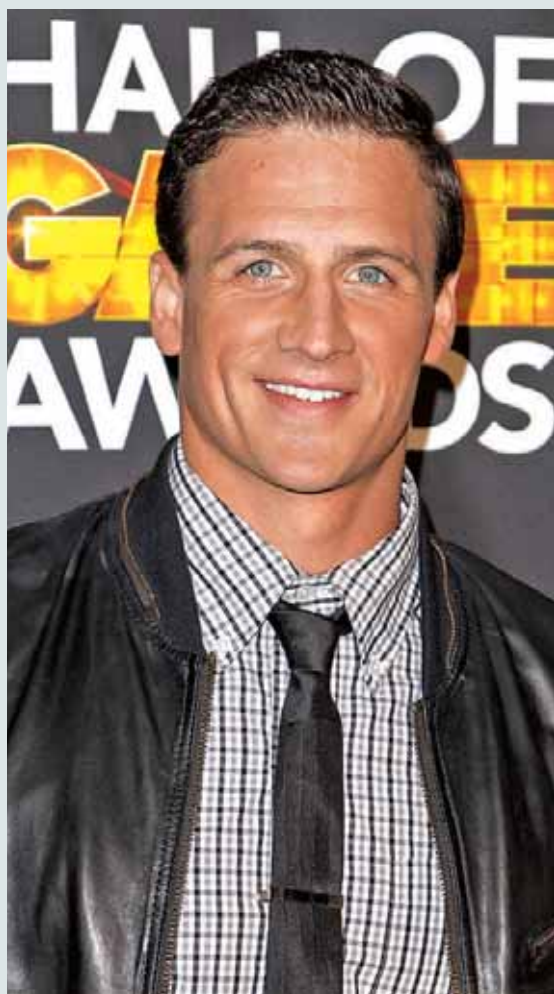
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OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



I got your nose, Ryan, do you love me now?



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Ryan Lochte is having a hard time finding love.

"I haven't been in a relationship in a year," the Olympian and star of the new reality TV show *What Would Ryan Lochte Do?* tells the new issue of *In Touch*. "Every time I date someone, I end up getting hurt."

The problem, it seems, is that he doesn't know if women are after his giant

brain (this is the man who wore a fake grill on the Olympic podium and coined the catchphrase "Jeah!" so by "giant brain" I might be using slight sarcasm) or for his public persona.

"I don't know if they're just after my fame and money or if they like me for who I really am."

But if he could find someone he really does like, what is he looking for?

"A girl that's fun, classy and sweet who I can have a conversation with," Ryan says.

"If she can make me smile and laugh, I'm sold!"

My advice for his next potential love interest? Pretend to take his nose. He would be so enamored of your magical powers, you'd be unstoppable.



Amanda Bynes
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Bynes gets her gym membership revoked for smoking pot

Amanda Bynes' outlandish behaviour reportedly got her kicked out of her New York City gym this weekend when she was caught smoking marijuana in the women's locker room, according to RumorFix.

Management at the Planet Fitness location even went so far as to revoke Bynes' membership.

"Planet Fitness does not allow lunks to work out here, and especially no weed-smokers," a staff member tells the site.

Bynes of course denies the allegations, telling RumorFix, "I don't smoke in the bathroom. I also don't smoke pot, I smoke tobacco."



Selena Gomez

Gomez's friends furious over latest reunion

As Selena Gomez's reunion with Justin Bieber appears to be heating up — the pair have reportedly been spotted holding hands, hugging and kissing during their European rendezvous — her friends are getting nervous.

"Selena's friends are furious that she's giving Justin another chance," a source tells Radar Online. "They've been trying to warn her that he's no good for her and that she should stay away from him, but she just loves the attention he gives her."



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In the land of Disney, the princess always reigned supreme. However, though Sleeping Beauty's Castle, the Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique and those ever-popular princesses may get a lot of the attention, Disneyland and California Adventure offer a pixie dustless world for the guys in your life too — all in time for Father's Day in June.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Four things for the boys in Disneyland

Cars Land

Route 66 comes to life for plain-old cars and animated Cars lovers alike. California Adventures' newest attraction is set in the world of Radiator Springs, where characters from the animated movie motor down Main Street. Rides include Luigi's Flying Tires, a modern floating-on-air version of bumper cars and Mater's Junkyard Jamboree, where tractors whip and spin you around. The highlight is Radiator Spring Racers, which takes you on a leisurely car ride through a wind-carved setting before drag racing your way to the finish line.



Don't miss: Characters from the animated film regularly park near the Cozy Cone Motel to have their photos taken.

Star Tours

Ask a 30- or 40-something father what his favourite movie was growing up — then ask his son the same question — and the likelihood is they may have the same answer: Star Wars. With Disney taking over control of the series, there may be more themed rides in the future. Until then, Star Tours is still the place in Disneyland to enjoy a ride through the galaxy while using the force to avoid the black-gloved wrath of Darth Vader. The 3D ride takes you on a Starspeeder, cruising at light speed through George Lucas' sci-fi universe.



Don't miss: A Jedi Training Academy takes place daily at the Tomorrowland Terrace, where kids are shown how to use lightsabers.

Pirates of the Caribbean

This is one of the original rides at Disneyland — long before Johnny Depp swaggered his way through the films as Captain Jack Sparrow. And there's a reason why Pirates has always been popular: it's fun. The boat ride starts in the calm Louisiana Bayou but soon takes you deep into the dark world of hidden treasure, sea battles, and the pirate-terrorized town of Puerto Dorado. It may sound scary, but it has a number of light-hearted moments to tame the pirate terror.



Don't miss: Captain Jack Sparrow makes a number of appearances during the ride, so keep your eyes peeled for him.

Pirate's Lair on Tom Sawyer's Island

Located in a man-made lake on the edge of Frontierland, the island is a giant playground for kids of all ages. A river raft ferries you from the main park across to the island, where dirt trails lead you to hidden caves, hilltop forts, wood and rope bridges and pirate's treasures.



Looking for more Disney vacation ideas? Metro's Elisha Dacey is currently at Disneyworld in Florida with Breakfast Television and Cityline's recent contest winners. Check out her blog at metronews.ca

Don't miss: Take a boat ride around the island on the Mark Twain, a 1900s paddleboat, or aboard the pirate ship Columbia.



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Travel smart

Some tips... on tipping



ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Many front line staff in the hospitality industry rely on tips to make a living wage. Although I do believe that they should be earned, not expected, it is important to assume the best and factor in the appropriate gratuities when planning your next holiday.

For servers in North American restaurants you should be leaving 15 per cent before tax at a minimum, including cost of drinks. For exceptional service you could bump that up from 18 to 20 per cent. In Europe they often include the tip in the bill, but an additional five to 15 per cent is appreciated. In Australia and New Zealand, just leaving five per cent is acceptable. In the Scandinavian countries and Japan, you are not expected to leave anything.

If you are staying in for



Tipping can be the source of much angst when you're travelling. iStock

some room service, always check the bill to see if a service charge has already been added on. It usually is indicative of a pooled tip, to be divided up by the entire department. If your server was particularly good, you may wish to give something extra but are certainly not obliged to do so.

Hotel room attendants tend to be the forgotten ones of the hospitality world. I like to leave \$2 to \$5 per day on the bed with a note of thanks. If you prefer to give one tip at the end of a longer stay, leave an envelope at the front desk. Note your room and number and dates of stay on the envelope and that you would like it divided among all the staff that serviced your room.

Hotel porters and bellhops should receive \$1 to \$2 per bag and parking valets \$2 to \$5. Tip the valet up front to ensure better service when it's time to leave. Taxi drivers in North America expect a 10 to 15 per cent tip. In Europe, simply round up the fare and in most Asian countries don't worry about it. A concierge often provides the most varied of services, so an appropriate tip could be anywhere between \$2 and \$20 depending on the complexity of your request. I would consider a standard restaurant reservation on the lower end of the scale and securing last minute tickets to a sold out concert on the upper end.

Ottawa brings the North down south

Festival. Beginning this week, Canada's capital plays host to art and more — all from the land of the midnight sun

If you go...

- For more information. Visit: nac-cna.ca/north-ernscene

side that region," said executive producer Heather Moore.

The festival features music and theatre, art and culture, food, film, fashion, fiddlers and folklore.

People will be able to sample smoked Arctic char tacos and elk poutine from a local food truck run by a former Yukon resident. Three northern chefs will be paired with three Ottawa chefs to try their own interpretations of char, reindeer and other northern fare.

As a whole, the Northern Scene offers a glimpse of an arts scene that many rarely see.

"I think people are going to be quite surprised at the scope

and the variety and just how contemporary everything is," said Moore.

Some of the artists, such as Susan Aglukark, are household names, while others are unknown to people in the south.

"We've got very worldly people who have travelled everywhere and we've got some people who haven't been south of Fort Simpson" (in the Northwest Territories), Moore said.

In all, the festival features about 250 artists in more than 50 events. Moore said previous versions have attracted 50,000 people and she sees no reason this year should be different.

While some performances are already sold out, there are also free events. The arts centre itself, which sits on the bank of the Rideau Canal within sight of the Parliament Buildings, will be the main venue, from its foyer to its various theatres and studios. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

The National Arts Centre is bringing the North to the South this spring with a 10-day festival featuring northern artists, musicians, singers, chefs, writers and storytellers who blend the traditional with the contemporary.

Every two years, the centre showcases a region of the country. In 2011, it was the Prairies. This year, the North will be the focus from Thursday until May 4.

"We certainly do have probably the largest representation of artists from the North that's ever been brought together out-



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Five ways to choose an employer

As a student or recent graduate who wants to hatch a career in insurance, it can be tempting to apply to any and all insurance employers that are hiring. But not every employer offers the same experience. Here are five strategies for choosing the insurance employer that is right for you:

CASSANDRA JOWETT

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Company size

There are more than 200 employers in the insurance industry, some with more than 5,000 employees and some with as few as five employees. They operate in major cities, like Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver, and in small towns across the country. Company size may be a consideration for you if you're looking for a close-knit family environment (smaller) or the opportunity to work in a number of different departments and locations (larger). Many insurance employers will mention how many employees they have on their TalentEgg profile, LinkedIn profile or on their corporate website in the About Us or Careers sections.

Insurance niches

Insurance can cover everything from vehicles and homes to health and pets, casinos and churches, and everything in between. While many of the large insurance companies offer a wide variety of insurance policies, there are some that specialize in certain industries or types of risk.

If your experience, expertise or interest lies in one of those areas, it may help you narrow down which employer to start your career with.

The National Insurance Marketer is designed to help Brokers look for markets for their specialty, niche and non-standard risks.

Support for professional development

As an aspiring insurance professional, you're probably eager to put a few letters after your name, such as CIP, CAIB or CRM, just to name a few (that's Chartered Insurance Professional, Canadian Accredited Insurance Broker or Canadian Risk Management for those not in the know). Perhaps you even want to pursue an MBA or post-graduate certificate related to insurance part-time while you work. No matter what your professional development plans are, it's essential that your employer is, at the very least, morally supportive of your endeavours.

Community work and social responsibility

At the end of the day, insurance companies are for-profit businesses and many of them are very profitable — it's one of the reasons why the insurance industry is such a stable place to start a career.

Most insurance employers make it a priority to find ways to invest those profits back into the communities in which they operate through employee volunteer work, fundraising and charitable donations.

Check out the Corporate Social Responsibility or Community sections of companies' websites.

The people

Current employees are invaluable sources of information. After all, they already know exactly what it's like to work for their employer and can tell you everything you won't find in a job listing or corporate website. Plus, if you get along well with some of the people who already work there, chances are you'll have no trouble fitting in. Meet insurance professionals on your campus. Real insurance professionals working for dozens of different employers often volunteer their time to speak with students about career opportunities in the industry.

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Interested individuals who possess the skills described above are requested to submit their resume and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than April 30, 2013. PLEASE QUOTE: "Sales Representative - Edmonton" in the subject line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

Want an insurance job? Shine your shoes

Jobs. What to expect, how to prepare, and how to follow up after your big interview

CASSANDRA JOWETT
TalentEgg.ca

If you really want to impress an insurance employer in a job interview, it all comes down to one thing: always be prepared.

One of the biggest mistakes students and recent graduates make is coming in unprepared, says Trevor Buttrum, Career Connections (career-connections.info) program manager at the Insurance Institute of Canada. Being unfamiliar with the company, being unable to make connections or draw parallels between your experience and the role, or showing up late are the three biggest insurance industry job interview don'ts, he adds.

Keep reading to find out what to expect during, how to prepare for and how to follow up after your next job interview with an insurance employer:

What to expect

Most interviews for insurance jobs involve a two-step process:

The telephone screen

The process may start with a telephone screen conducted by a recruiter in the company's human resources department. "The telephone screen is designed to confirm that you meet the criteria for the position, establish your understanding of the role, and get a sense of your style or approach," Buttrum explains.

The in-person interview

If you meet the requirements of the telephone screen, it will usually be followed by one or two in-person interviews that may now include the hiring manager and other colleagues involved in the process. "Don't let it throw you if it is a panel interviewing you — these are now common place!" Buttrum says.

The in-person interviews will most likely be behavioural or competency-based, he says. "Think, 'Tell me about a time when...' or scenarios that get at how you might handle various aspects of the job. The employer is looking for you to make connections between what you have done and how it will help you to be successful in your potential new role."

How to prepare

Find out what you'll need
When you're invited for the

interview, whether it's by phone or email, always ask if there's anything that you should bring. Here's why:

"I once had an employer say, 'Good thing you asked, I almost forgot to mention that we would like to see an example of a presentation you have developed. Could you supply us with a version on a USB key?'" Buttrum recalls. "I would have never just 'had one on hand' in an interview."

Know yourself

In a job interview situation, knowing exactly how your education and experience will benefit the employer and the role you've applied for is half the battle.

Ideally, you've already determined this in order to tailor your resumé and apply for the job in the first place, but if not, learn as much as you can about the role and map out how you fit the bill, Buttrum says.

Practise your answers to typical job interview questions with a trusted friend or career counsellor and introduce examples from your experience into the conversation. Buttrum recommends using the STAR method to help you answer the interviewer's questions:

- Situation — Setting the stage: Who, when, where, why? (five per cent of your answer).
- Task — What did you do? What was your role? (five per cent of your answer).
- Action — How did you do it? What steps did you take? (70 per cent of your answer).
- Result — What happened? What was the outcome (20 per cent of your answer).

Do your research

How much do you know about the company, its business, core values and any other unique aspects to it?

"Web research, reading trade publications, checking out examples of their consumer marketing and talking to industry professionals are great ways to gain these types of insights," Buttrum explains.

Dress for success

"Insurance is a traditional industry and, although business casual is becoming the norm for day-to-day in the workplace, it is suggested that you go business formal for the interview," Buttrum advises.

What does that mean? "Suit jackets, blazers, pressed pants, blouses, collared shirts, ties, nicely-shined shoes and knee-length skirts are what come to mind," he adds.

How to follow up

Should you or shouldn't you? When and how often? These are

all questions that tend to plague students and recent graduates following their job interviews.

"Before you leave the interview, ask what the next steps are in the process and when the employer anticipates moving forward in their decision making," Buttrum recommends. "Keep this date in mind and use it as a temperature gauge for when to follow up next."

From there, don't push too

hard. "Like any relationship, high frequency or intensity followup can send the wrong message," he says, adding that the process may be taking slightly longer than expected, hiring may not be the person's primary responsibility and other priorities may have arisen since your interview. "Be sure to give the employer a little leeway."

Frame your followup as checking in to see where they

are in the process rather than asking whether or not they have reached a decision, and let the employer know you are happy to answer any questions or provide additional information which might support the process, Buttrum advises.

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Think you can just wing it during your next job interview? Think again. ISTOCK IMAGES



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Your resumé is the first step toward getting an interview. ISTOCK IMAGES

Write the best resumé for an insurance job

Drawing attention.
A few tips on using
your resumé to
introduce yourself to
a potential employer

CASSANDRA
JOWETT
TalentEgg.ca

When writing your resumé, what's your ultimate goal? To get a job?

If that's the case, then you probably have the wrong purpose in mind.

Your resumé is just one of many steps you may take toward getting an insurance job. The real goal of that piece of paper should be to get an interview with the employer.

After all, your resumé is simply an opportunity to introduce yourself to a potential employer and, for the first time, draw their attention to your education, qualifications and experience. Your resumé should also demonstrate how you meet the employer's

needs and are the best candidate for the specific position that you are applying for.

Follow these tips, provided by Career Connections (career-connections.info), a division of the Insurance Institute, to avoid any risk of missing out on the next insurance job you apply for.

Before you start

Sure, it's easy to whip up a resumé and fire off a dozen or so job applications each day. You might think that the numbers will be on your side, but the truth is employers notice when you do this. Before applying for any insurance job:

- learn more about the insurance industry.
- research each company and job carefully.
- make connections at insurance industry events and online, and try to set up informational interviews.
- develop a strategy for responding to the needs of the hiring manager.
- create a unique resumé for each job you apply for.

Insurance resumé dos and don'ts

- Do
 - Keep it concise — no more than one or two pages.
 - Make it easy to read — use at least 10 point font.
 - Use either a chronological (reverse timeline) or functional (experience-based) format.
 - Put your name and contact information front and centre on all pages, including a professional email address (firstname.lastname@mail.com) and phone number with voicemail.
 - Include an objective and a professional summary, plus details about your education and work and volunteer history.

Don't:

- Use industry-specific slang, jargon or acronyms if you can avoid it.
- Include references to your age, gender, ethnicity, religion or political affiliation, sexual orientation or Social Insurance Number (SIN).
- Forget to include accomplishments rather than tasks.



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LOYAL RELATIONSHIPS

FLEXIBLE PLANS MAKE POINTS PROGRAMS ATTRACTIVE TO CANADIAN CONSUMERS

Canadians truly love loyalty programs. The 2011 Colloquy Loyalty Census revealed 120.7 million loyalty memberships in this country — impressive, given that there are less than 35 million Canadians. Canadian Tire money, a proto-points program conceived by the appropriately named Muriel Billes, has been going strong since 1958.

To what do we owe this loyalty to loyalty? You might argue that Canadians aren't the most rebellious people. You might argue that we love a deal — though many countries have more ferocious bartering cultures than ours. It's probably a bit of both. But what makes loyalty programs most attractive for Canadians is their flexibility.

Choice. Options. Big concepts, expressed in a small, but meaningful way through programs from WestJet, Air Miles, Aeroplan, Shoppers Optimum, PC

Points, and hundreds more from banks, credit card companies and other organizations. Some of these programs let you accumulate points for years, if you wish — saving up for that big-ticket item you have dreamed about. What makes that trip or product so special says a lot about you.

How you earn your points says a lot, too. You do it by being you — by shopping at the places you like to shop, buying the things you like to buy. You can build points by choosing credit, like the Target RBC MasterCard, instead of cash, or by using online retail instead of the traditional kind. Maybe the loyalty program itself is one of the reasons you are shopping there, but these days, almost every vendor has a program of some kind — this is Canada, after all.

Your lifestyle, needs, and personal choices inform how you build points,

and how you redeem them.

Aeroplan, for example, allows you to redeem your points not just for plane flights, but other travel-related products and services, such as luggage and car rentals; and even items that have nothing to do with travel, like home furnishings and power tools. You can even donate to charity. While the range of products offered by bookstores, grocery stores or theatres may not be that wide, they are certainly varied enough to suit many tastes.

These are our points — we earned them. And what we do with them is up to us.

— Chris

Edwards



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It's flexible, too. WestJet dollars can be spent on any vacation package or flight the carrier operates, even during seat sales. There are no blackout periods or limited seating. So long as the flight is a new booking, you can use your WestJet dollars to reduce its cost. Like most loyalty programs, WestJet dollars do not cover taxes, fees and charges, but you can use any amount to cover the base fare, starting

with as little as 25 WestJet dollars.

As a member of WestJet Rewards, you will earn progressively more WestJet dollars per total spent on WestJet flights in a given year. When your spending reaches certain milestones, WestJet offers bonuses, such as a Jet-Away package, including a companion flight, lounge passes, and more.

You can also build up WestJet dollars by making purchases with one of two WestJet RBC MasterCard. Cardholders earn up to 1.5 per cent back on any purchase they make — unless they are spending on flights or vacation packages with WestJet, in which case they will earn up to two per cent. New applicants receive a welcome bonus of up to 250 WestJet dollars when they make their first purchase with the card. Holders of the WestJet RBC World Elite MasterCard also receive an annual \$99 round-trip companion flight (excluding taxes, fees, and charges), which can be used anywhere WestJet flies within Canada or the contiguous United States.

"The program continues to grow and evolve, offering additional value to our guests," Palmer says. "It's not just about loyalty — it's about working to earn your business every day, then rewarding you for being our guest."

For more about WestJet Rewards, visit westjet.com/rewards.



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There once was a time when travel rewards programs were anything but consumer friendly. Fortunately, those days are well behind us.

“With the RBC Rewards program, we put the needs of our customers first,” says Donna Lue-Atkinson, RBC’s vice-president of global loyalty programs and rewards.

“We recognize the value of flexibility and treating every client as a unique individual. We also want the experience to be easy for clients to use and offer them the range of choice they’re looking for in a rewards program.”

To demonstrate this breadth of choice, Lue-Atkinson points to different initiatives within RBC Rewards.

“Some people want a highly personalized travel service. For those clients, we have a strategic relationship with Carson Wagonlit Travel. Our customers visit one of their store locations or call in and get the full-service approach they’re seeking, redeeming their points at point of sale. Other clients prefer self-service, and for those clients, we have a partnership with Travelocity, a one-stop end-to-end online experience. Customers can book their air travel, car rental, cruises, hotels and more online.”

Today’s rewards programs don’t start and end with travel, however.

“In December 2012, RBC Rewards launched eMall on our website to address the growth of online shopping,” Lue-Atkinson says. “Through this portal on our site, consumers can access more than 250 retailers, including Apple, Hudson’s Bay, Indigo Books & Music, Gap and Old Navy. By using their RBC Rewards credit card to make purchases, clients get one extra point for every dollar they spend above and beyond their regular rewards.

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Lasagna gets an under the sea makeover — shrimp and all



ROSE REISMAN
for more, visit
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her on twitter @rosereisman

You can use any combo of fish you like in this creamy lasagna, but I like shrimp for its sweet flavour and firm texture. Don't use a fish that's too delicate or it will fall apart.

1. Preheat the oven to 375 F. Spray a 13- by 9-inch baking dish with cooking oil.
2. To make seafood mixture, heat the oil in a non-stick skillet over medium heat. Sauté the garlic, bell pepper and leeks for 5 minutes or just until tender.
3. Add the seafood and sauté until the fish is opaque, approximately 3 minutes. Pour off any excess liquid. Set aside.
4. Combine the flour, stock, milk and mustard in a non-

stick saucepan and stir until smooth. Simmer over medium heat until just thickened, approximately 4 minutes, stirring often. Stir in the dill, pepper and the seafood mixture. Remove from the heat.

5. For cheese mix, combine ricotta, 3/4 cup of cheddar, Swiss and Parmesan cheese in a small bowl, mixing well.

6. To assemble, place 3 lasagna noodles in prepared baking dish. Spread 1/3 of seafood mix over top, then 1/2 of cheese mix. Repeat for second layer. Top with remaining 3 lasagna noodles and remaining seafood mix. Sprinkle the remaining 1/4 cup cheddar cheese over the top. Cover with foil and bake approximately 30 minutes, removing the foil for the last 10 minutes of baking time. Allow to rest for 5 minutes before cutting and serving. **ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN**

Ingredients

- 1 tsp vegetable oil
- 2 tsp crushed fresh garlic
- 2/3 cup diced red or green bell pepper
- 2/3 cup diced leeks or red onion
- 1 lb seafood, cut into small pieces
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup seafood or chicken stock
- 1 1/4 cups 2 % evaporated milk
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh dill or 1 tbsp dried
- Pinch ground black pepper
- 1 1/4 cups smooth light ricotta
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup shredded Swiss cheese
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 9 cooked lasagna noodles

Creamy Seafood Lasagna with Leeks and Bell Peppers



This recipe serves 10. It contains 345 calories and 12 g fat per serving. MARK SHAPIRO, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

Drink of the Week

Thyme and Ginger Sour

An ideal mix of savoury and sour, this drink is perfect for a casual evening in with friends. It's easy to make and looks great, too.

- 2 oz Luksusowa
- 2 oz fresh lime juice
- 1/2 oz simple syrup
- 2 oz ginger beer
- fresh thyme to garnish

Shake Luksusowa, lime juice and syrup with ice and pour into a rock glass. Top with ginger beer and garnish with fresh thyme.

COURTESY OF NISHAN NEPULANGODA, MIXOLOGIST AND BAR MANAGER, BLOWFISH/ PHOTO BY YBIMC



Starchy, crunchy, flavourful: Fried Rice & Pickled Radishes

1. Heat a large nonstick skillet over medium-high. Coat the pan with cooking spray.
2. In a small bowl, lightly beat the eggs. Add a pinch of salt and some pepper to the eggs, then add them to the pan. Tilt the pan to spread the egg all around to make a flat pancake. Cook for 30 to 45 seconds, or until almost set. Turn over the

egg (you can cut it in a few pieces to make it easier, using the side of a nonstick pan-safe spatula) and cook for another 10 seconds. Transfer the egg to a cutting board.

3. Add 1/2 tablespoon of the oil to the pan. Once the oil is hot, add the onion. Reduce the heat to medium and cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion is

lightly golden, about 3 to 5 minutes. Add the shrimp and cook, stirring, until almost cooked through, about another 3 to 5 minutes. Add the garlic and ginger and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Transfer the mixture to a bowl and return the skillet to the heat.

4. Add the remaining 1 1/2 tablespoons of oil to the skillet, then add the rice, pressing it flat with the back of the spatula. Cook until the rice is slightly crispy, turning it over with the spatula, about 8 to 10 minutes.

5. While the rice is cooking, in a small bowl combine the radishes, vinegar and salt to taste. In a small bowl combine the soy sauce, sake and sesame oil. Chop the egg and add it along with the peas and sugar snap peas to the bowl with the shrimp.

6. When the rice is nicely crisped, add the contents of the shrimp bowl and the soy sauce mixture to the skillet and cook, stirring, until the mixture is

Ingredients

- 2 eggs
- Kosher salt and black pepper
- 2 tbsp canola oil, divided
- 1 cup finely chopped onion
- 1/2 lb peeled and deveined raw shrimp
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tsp grated fresh ginger
- 3 cups cooked brown rice
- 2 cups coarsely shredded radishes (about 10 large radishes)
- 2 tbsp seasoned rice vinegar
- 1 tbsp low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 tbsp sake or dry sherry
- 2 tsp sesame oil
- 1 cup blanched fresh or thawed frozen peas
- 1 cup blanched sugar snap peas, cut into 1/2-inch pieces

heated through. Transfer the fried rice to 4 bowls and top each portion with some of the radishes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/SARA MOULTON, AUTHOR OF THREE COOKBOOKS, INCLUDING SARA MOULTON'S EVERYDAY FAMILY DINNERS.

Dinner. Honey Garlic Surf 'n' Turf Kebabs



1. Place steak chunks in large shallow dish. Pour all but 1/3 cup (75 ml) of honey garlic sauce over steak, turning so that meat is well coated. Cover and marinate in refrigerator for at least one hour or for up to 4 hours. Remove from the fridge and let stand at room temperature for 30 minutes.

2. Remove meat from marinade; discard marinade. Thread steak, shrimp, zucchini, cherry tomatoes and onions onto 8 metal skewers.

3. Spray grill with Pam Grilling Spray; heat to medium-high heat. Grill skewers, basting occasionally with remaining honey garlic sauce, turning once, until meat is medium-rare and

shrimp are opaque, about 12 minutes. Make sure to keep grill covered when not basting. **NEWS CANADA/ VHSAUCE.SA**

Ingredients

- 1 lb (500 g) grilling steak (rib eye, sirloin) cut into 32 large chunks
- 1 jar (341 mL) VH honey garlic sauce
- 1 lb (500 g) jumbo shrimp (about 16), peeled and deveined
- 1 zucchini, cut into chunks
- 1 cup (250 mL) cherry or grape tomatoes
- 1 large red onion, cut into wedges
- Pam Grilling Spray



This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Draft in New York City

NFL beefs up security following Boston bombings

The NFL is increasing security for this week's draft at Radio City Music Hall, with everyone subject to screenings, including use of metal detectors and pat-downs and searches of personal property.

Even league officials, players and their families will be subject to such measures.

The league said Tuesday that spectators who don't consent to the security requirements will be refused admission. The draft begins Thursday night and has sessions Friday night and Saturday afternoon.

All sports events have ramped up security since the Boston Marathon bombings last week.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Backpacks at ballparks

MLB set to talk security changes

Stadium operations officials from the 30 big league baseball teams will meet this week and are expected to discuss whether to make any security changes in the wake of the Boston Marathon bombings.

Major League Baseball said the meeting Thursday in New York was planned before the attacks last week.

Among the security topics that could be discussed are backpacks that fans bring into ballparks.

Each team has different policies for fans, although the general major league limitation on bag sizes is 16 inches by 16 inches by 8 inches.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Stephane Robidas of Dallas checks Ryan Nugent-Hopkins back in February. Nugent-Hopkins is out with a shoulder injury. DEREK LEUNG/GETTY IMAGES

Body mechanics key to long-term success



THE HOCKEY NEWS
Ryan Kennedy
edmonton@metronews.ca

With nothing left to accomplish as a team this season, the timing of Ryan Nugent-Hopkins' shoulder surgery perhaps makes sense for the Edmonton Oilers. Now the question becomes one of asset management and, in a more cosmic sense, luck.

Nugent-Hopkins joins fellow top draft pick Taylor Hall on the team as big Edmonton talents who have gone under the knife for torn labrums early in their NHL careers and both

blamed the maladies on incidents that occurred in junior hockey.

I'm not going to question why it took them or the Oilers so long to make the move, but I will say that another young NHL star learned this season what taking care of his body can do for on-ice performance. That would be Colorado Avalanche centre Matt Duchene, the team's second-leading scorer (one point behind linemate P.A. Parenteau). Duchene had a career season offensively and the fact he got to the root of performance issues that stemmed from ankle and knee problems was the key. Duchene

worked with trainer Andy O'Brien (Sidney Crosby is also a client) and found out how his body was acting inefficiently this summer and last year's injuries were a root cause.

Hall and Nugent-Hopkins are different from each other, even though offensive excellence are both strengths. For Hall, his speed wouldn't be as affected by a shoulder injury as it would be by say, an ankle problem, but the reckless abandon with which he plays the game must be examined. It can be both a pro and a con with Hall and as we've also seen with Carolina's Jeff Skinner this season, you

can't score goals when you're sitting in the quiet room after being on the wrong end of another big check.

With Nugent-Hopkins, his vision was always a hallmark, but his hands are also mint. A shoulder problem could affect that movement a bit, but again, this doesn't have to be a big deal in his young career. The key is to not only rehab the surgery, but work with somebody like O'Brien to make sure natural moves are being made once he's back on the ice and in the weight room. Body mechanic research is so advanced now, it can make a huge difference in a player's career. Just ask Duchene.

Washington caps major turnaround



Capitals winger Jason Chimera, right, celebrates his first-period goal against the Winnipeg Jets with teammate Mathieu Perreault on Tuesday night in Washington. NICK WASS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Considering how they started, it's quite the achievement that the Washington Capitals got to the playoffs with time to spare.

The Capitals clinched the Southeast Division title Tuesday night, completing a stark turnaround in a lockout-shortened season with a 5-3 win over the Winnipeg Jets.

The Capitals blew a two-goal lead, survived a pair of replay reviews and exhaled deeply when defencemen John Erskine cleared two

shots off the goal line. They also had to kill off a power play with a one-goal lead late in the game, but they held to win for the 10th time in 11 games and secure a post-season berth with two games remaining.

Alex Ovechkin scored his league-leading 31st goal — an empty-netter in the final minute — and Matt Hendricks, Jason Chimera, Nicklas Backstrom and Mathieu Perreault also scored, while Braden Holtby made 24 saves.

The Capitals were next-to-last in the Eastern Conference as recently as March 21, but Ovechkin and first-year coach Adam Oates have led them to the playoffs for the sixth consecutive season, a run that includes five Southeast titles.

As the winner of the division — albeit the weakest division in the NHL — Washington will leapfrog several teams with better records and enter the playoffs as the conference's No. 3 seed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Heat forward LeBron James shoots over Milwaukee's John Henson on Tuesday night. WILFREDO LEE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bucks can't hang with Heat in fourth

Game 2. 12-0 run to start final frame pushes Miami ahead for good

Everyone in the Miami huddle was bracing for a grind to the finish. On the other end, the sense around the Milwaukee bench was that an upset was there for the taking.

Then the Heat landed a swift knockout punch.

Dwyane Wade scored 21 points, LeBron James finished with 19 and the Heat used a frantic start to the fourth quarter to pull away and beat the Bucks 98-86 in Game 2 of the teams' Eastern Conference first-round series on Tuesday night.

It was 68-65 entering the fourth. With James and four backups on the court, the Heat needed only two minutes, 22 seconds to outscore Milwaukee 12-0 and stretch the lead to 80-65 — ensuring the reigning NBA champions would take a

2-0 series lead into Game 3 on Thursday night.

"We held court," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "We protected it for two games. We did what we're supposed to do. And that's it."

Chris Bosh, Shane Battier and Chris Andersen all scored 10 points for the Heat. James' post-season streaks of 22 straight games with at least 20 points, and 16 straight games of at least 25 points, both came to an end.

Ultimately, none of that mattered.

"We didn't get into our game like we wanted to in that third quarter," James said. "But we went into the fourth with a (three-point) lead and we were able to jump on them."

Ersan Ilyasova scored 21 points for Milwaukee, which got 16 from Mike Dunleavy and 14 from Larry Sanders. The Bucks' starting guards, Brandon Jennings and Monta Ellis, combined for only 15 points — after teaming up to score 48 in

Celtics-Knicks

Carmelo Anthony scored 34 points, Sixth Man of the Year J.R. Smith added 19, and the New York Knicks opened a 2-0 lead over the Boston Celtics with an 87-71 victory on Tuesday night.

- Raymond Felton added 16 points for the Knicks, who used a 27-4 run spanning halftime to blow it open.

Game 1.

"It's a series," said Sanders, who had a sore right ankle after he collided with Battier in the fourth quarter. "We made progress this game."

They'll need to make more, and do it quickly. James has never lost in 10 previous series where his team takes a 2-0 lead, and Wade is 8-0 in that same situation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Pacers' George wins MIP award

Pacers forward Paul George spent the past summer turning himself into a better player.

Now he's planning to dedicate himself to becoming the NBA's best all-around player.

A few minutes after accepting the league's Most Improved Player Award, the 6-foot-9 swingman promised to work even harder to attain the biggest rewards of all — an NBA title and perhaps an MVP.

"I think I can play at an MVP level. I think that's very much within reach," George said Tuesday. "For me, it's all about being consistent and having that aggressive mindset."

George has already emerged as one of the league's top young players, which explains his runaway victory in the balloting. He received 52 of 120 first-place votes and 311 points, more than double the total of New Orleans' Greivis Vasquez, who had 13 first-place votes and 146 points. Milwaukee's Larry Sanders was third with 141 points and was one of three players to receive 10 first-place votes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL. Stadium delays cost Blue Bombers over \$700K

Even a \$758,307 loss posted by the Blue Bombers last year couldn't keep Garth Buchko from being an optimist.

The team's president and chief executive officer announced Tuesday the CFL club had an overall operating profit of \$726,930 last year wiped out mainly because of delays in building the new \$200-million Investors Group Field.

Windy and frigid weather were factors in stadium development costs unexpectedly adding a \$1.05-million bill, while the team also took a \$434,287 hit for writing down Canad Inns Stadium assets that couldn't be taken to the new 33,500-seat facility on the University of Manitoba campus.

"Looking back at 2012, it is easy to identify the disappointments we experienced," Buchko said.

"However, at the risk of be-



Winnipeg Blue Bombers' Steve Morley, left, and Kenny Mainor wave goodbye to the fans after the last game at Canad Inns Stadium on Nov. 3. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

ing called an optimist, which I certainly am, you can't build a world-class facility and team by focusing on the past."

Buchko, who was criticized last year for announcing opening dates for the new stadium then having to cancel games at the new facility all together in June, said its doors will open next month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hoping for better days

Last year's loss was a sharp turnaround from the 2011 financial report, which saw the Bombers take in \$3.01 million in net earnings from operations and an overall net profit of \$2.3 million.

- Team president Garth Buchko is hoping the Bombers can improve on 2012's 6-12 record because if they don't, it could cost the club in the pocketbook again.

NBA

NBA PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND

(Best-of-7)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

MIAMI (1) VS MILWAUKEE (8)

(Miami leads series 2-0)

Tuesday's result

Miami 98 Milwaukee 86

NEW YORK (2) VS BOSTON (7)

(New York leads series 2-0)

Tuesday's result

New York 87 Boston 71

INDIANA (3) VS ATLANTA (6)

(Indiana leads series 1-0)

Wednesday's game

Atlanta at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN (4) VS CHICAGO (5)

(Series tied 1-1)

Monday's result

Chicago 90 Brooklyn 82

Thursday's game

Brooklyn at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

OKLAHOMA CITY (1) VS HOUSTON (8)

(Oklahoma City leads series 1-0)

Wednesday's game

Houston at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.

SAN ANTONIO (1) VS L.A. LAKERS (7)

(San Antonio leads series 1-0)

Sunday's result

San Antonio 91 L.A. Lakers 79

Wednesday's game

L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 9:30 p.m.

DENVER (3) VS GOLDEN STATE (6)

(Denver leads series 1-0)

Tuesday's result

Golden State at Denver

L.A. CLIPPERS (4) VS MEMPHIS (5)

(L.A. Clippers leads series 2-0)

Monday's result

L.A. Clippers 93 Memphis 91

Thursday's game

L.A. Clippers at Memphis, 9:30 p.m.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pt
z-Pittsburgh	46	35	11	0	0	155	113	70
dx-Boston	45	27	13	2	3	125	102	59
y-Washington	46	26	18	2	0	145	126	54
x-Montreal	46	27	14	3	2	141	123	59
x-Toronto	45	25	15	0	5	138	124	55
x-NY Islanders	46	24	16	4	2	137	135	54
Ottawa	45	23	16	2	4	109	99	52
NY Rangers	46	24	18	0	4	122	109	52
Winnipeg	47	24	20	0	3	126	140	51
New Jersey	46	18	18	3	7	109	123	46
Buffalo	47	20	21	2	4	123	142	46
Philadelphia	46	21	22	1	2	129	139	45
Carolina	46	19	24	2	1	122	148	41
Tampa Bay	45	17	24	1	3	140	141	38
Florida	46	14	26	5	1	107	164	34

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pt
z-Chicago	45	34	6	0	5	147	97	73
y-Anaheim	46	29	11	3	3	134	112	64
y-Vancouver	46	26	13	1	6	124	111	59
x-Los Angeles	46	26	15	1	4	129	113	57
St. Louis	46	27	17	1	1	122	113	56
San Jose	45	24	14	3	4	118	109	55
Minnesota	46	25	18	1	2	118	120	52
Columbus	46	22	17	3	4	114	117	51
Detroit	45	21	16	3	5	113	112	50
Dallas	45	22	19	3	1	127	133	48
Phoenix	45	19	18	3	5	114	122	46
Calgary	46	19	23	1	3	126	153	42
Edmonton	45	17	21	4	1	111	127	41
Nashville	46	16	21	3	6	108	131	41

x - clinched playoff berth; y - division; z - conference.

Tuesday's results

Buffalo 4 Pittsburgh 2
Carolina 4 NY Islanders 3 (SO)
Florida 3 NY Rangers 2
Minnesota 2 Los Angeles 1
Nashville 4 Calgary 3
New Jersey 3 Montreal 2
Philadelphia 5 Boston 2
St. Louis 3 Colorado 1
Washington 5 Winnipeg 3
Dallas at San Jose
Monday's late results
Anaheim 3 Edmonton 0
Vancouver 3 Chicago 1
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Toronto at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.
San Jose at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	13	7	.650	—
Baltimore	12	8	.600	1
New York	11	8	.579	1½
Tampa Bay	9	11	.450	4
Toronto	8	13	.381	5½
CENTRAL DIVISION				
Kansas City	10	7	.588	—
Minnesota	9	8	.529	1
Detroit	9	9	.500	1½
Cleveland	8	10	.444	2½
Chicago	7	12	.368	4
WEST DIVISION				
Texas	13	6	.684	—
Oakland	13	8	.619	1
Los Angeles	7	11	.389	5½
Seattle	8	14	.364	6½
Houston	6	14	.300	7½

Tuesday's results
Baltimore 4 Toronto 3
Houston 3 Seattle 2
Minnesota 4-5 Miami 3-8
N.Y. Yankees 4 Tampa Bay 3
Oakland 13 Boston 0 (7 innings)
Cleveland at Chicago White Sox (ppd., rain)
Kansas City at Detroit (ppd., rain)
Texas at L.A. Angels
Wednesday's games
All Times Eastern

Toronto at Baltimore, 12:35 p.m.
Cleveland at Chicago White Sox, 2:10 p.m.
Seattle at Houston, 2:10 p.m.
Oakland at Boston, 4:05 p.m.
Kansas City at Detroit, 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m.
Texas at L.A. Angels, 10:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Tuesday's results
Atlanta 4 Colorado 3
Pittsburgh 2 Philadelphia 0
St. Louis 2 Washington 0
L.A. Dodgers 7 N.Y. Mets 2
Chicago Cubs 4 Cincinnati 2 (10 innings)
Atlanta 10 Colorado 2
Milwaukee at San Diego
Arizona at San Francisco

Machado lifts Orioles over Dickey, Jays

MLB. Last year's NL Cy Young Award winner touched up for four runs in six innings

Manny Machado had two hits and two RBIs, and the Baltimore Orioles used a four-run second inning to beat R.A. Dickey and the Toronto Blue Jays 4-3 Tuesday night.

Miguel Gonzalez (2-1) al-

lowed three runs in six innings for the Orioles, who have won nine of 13. By taking the first two games of the three-game set, Baltimore improved to 5-2 in seven series this season — including 4-1 against the AL East.

It was the 100th consecutive game the Orioles have won when leading after seven innings, a streak that began in August 2011. Baltimore is 4-3 in one-run games after starting 0-3.

On Tuesday

4

Orioles

3

Blue Jays

Edwin Encarnacion hit a three-run homer for the last-place Blue Jays, who have dropped six of eight.

Dickey (2-3) gave up four runs, six hits and five walks in six innings. The knuckleballer, who left his previous start with neck and back pain, did not appear to be in discomfort on the mound. But he didn't look like the reigning NL Cy Young Award winner during the pivotal second inning.

Jim Johnson got three outs for his eighth save in eight tries, striking out J.P. Arencibia with a runner on first to end the game. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Blue Jays first baseman Edwin Encarnacion, left, lies on the ground after tagging out Orioles baserunner Nate McLouth on Tuesday night in Baltimore. GAIL BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hockey

Canadian U18s rout Swedes to win their group

Connor McDavid scored three power-play goals and Canada clinched first place in its group with a 6-0 rout of Sweden on Tuesday at the world under-18 hockey championship in Sochi, Russia.

McDavid opened the scoring 1:17 into the game, and sealed the victory with a pair of goals in the third period.

The 16-year-old Erie Otters forward, who added an assist, has 11 points in four games at the tournament.

Zach Nastasiuk, Morgan Klimchuk and Nick Ritchie scored in the second period as Canada pulled away from the Swedes.

Philippe Desrosiers made 28 saves for the shutout.

Canada finished first in Group B with a 4-0 record, outscoring its opponents 23-3. The Canadians will play the Czech Republic, which finished fourth in Group A, in Thursday's quarter-finals.

Sweden will face the United States on Thursday. The Americans who finished third in Group A, are looking for a fifth straight gold medal at the event. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Connor McDavid OHL IMAGES

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Champions League. Bayern batters Barcelona

Thomas Mueller scored two goals as Bayern Munich dominated Barcelona on Tuesday to take a commanding 4-0 lead after the first leg of their highly anticipated Champions League semifinal.

Mueller scored in the first half and added another after Mario Gomez and Arjen Robben had also scored in the second half. It was Barcelona's biggest loss in the Champions League since 1997. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Barcelona's Lionel Messi, right, challenges Bastian Schweinsteiger of Bayern Munich. GETTY IMAGES

Dryden stirs concussion discussion in Calgary

Ken Dryden believes shining the spotlight on concussions is the way to spur meaningful prevention and treatment.

The Hockey Hall of Fame goalie is attempting to clear away the fog surrounding concussions by getting athletes, medical professionals, researchers, coaches and sports administrators in one room in front of the public.

"I think it's the biggest issue

Goaltending legend

6

Ken Dryden won six Stanley Cups a member of the Montreal Canadiens in the 1970s.

of sports and not just hockey, but football, lacrosse and rugby and even soccer," Dryden said Monday night at a sports con-

cussions panel in Calgary.

"I love the phrase 'Where there's a will, there's a way.' But in an awful lot of very difficult, tricky questions, and this is one of them, it's the reverse that's more true. I need to see some way before I'm ready to commit more will. ... I think that's where we are. This is a question that needs a lot more way, a lot more answers."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Relax, it's Acura 2014 RLX

Review. RLX's 'takaburi' all begins with a wild set of headlights

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

"Takaburi" is the word Acura's project leader Yousuke Sekino uses in describing the 2014 RLX sedan. It means "exhilarating" in Japanese and if any car in Honda's premium division fits that description, this is it.

Acura has been noticeably bereft of a truly top-level flagship model with that 'takaburi' feeling for some time. The long-in-the-tooth RL sedan that resembled a slightly enlarged Accord from two generations ago never really cut it with those seeking flash and dash.

The replacement RLX, arriving by early spring, likely won't pry anyone from their status-mobiles models displaying three-pointed stars, interconnected rings or airplane-propeller logos. But at least Acura offers some compelling reasons for having the valet gang park one for you in its assigned stall.

The RLX's more aggressively styled front fenders, smoothed-out grille and unique multi-reflector headlight pods contribute to a distinctly premium look.

Much of the between-the-wheels increase gives the RLX an impressive amount of rear-seat legroom that puts its key Japanese and German competitors to shame.

The rest of the interior also impresses, with an elegant dashboard and control-panel layout, inviting and supportive leather-covered



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

2014 Acura RLX

- **Type.** Four-door front-wheel drive mid-luxury sedan
- **Engines (hp).** 3.5 litre SOHC V6 (310)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed automatic with paddle-shift controls
- **Base price (incl. destination)** \$50,000

Design

The first thing you notice about the RLX is its handsome sheet metal. The car's Honda roots are definitely showing, but it easily beats the rest of Acura's sedan fleet when it comes to appearance. Perhaps surprisingly, its overall dimensions — length, width and height — differ only slightly from the RL.

Weight

The rigid body structure uses considerable amounts of high-strength steel that, combined with numerous aluminum body panels, helps keep the car below the 1,820-kilogram mark. That's roughly 45 kilograms lighter than the RL.

Engine

The RLX clings to its V6 roots by using a 310-horsepower 3.5-litre unit that produces 272 pound-feet of torque. By comparison, the RL's 3.7-litre V6 made 300 horsepower and 271 pound-feet of torque. The engine prefers premium fuel, but the RLX is rated at 10.5 l/100 km in the city and 6.4 on the highway.

seats and a floor console that can be opened from the driver or passenger's side.

Although not obvious in flat-out driving, the RLX certainly feels poised and precise in tight turns and provides a no-sweat experience when braking at high speeds.

The RLX arrives with an abundance of people-pampering content, but you will need to shell out more

than the \$50,000 base price to add a number of collision-mitigating features, the navigation system, premium leather package and your choice of two high-end audio systems.

The RLX is a giant leap forward for Acura and is comparable to more established luxury brands in style and content, with a smidgen of "takaburi" tossed in for good measure.



The RLX's interior fits well and is neat and tidy. The centre console can be opened from the left or the right.

5 DRIVE



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Vroom vroom just won't do it anymore



BMW recently switched up its "double gong" audio logo to a new one characterized as a "dynamic melody." Pictured is BMW's X4 Concept. CONTRIBUTED

Trademark. BMW reveals a new signature sound, but it's not for every automaker out there

MIKE
GOETZ
drive@metronews.ca

Through the years many sounds have been associated with, and emanated from, automobiles.

To cite a few: the howl of an engine in anger; the bark of an unrestricted exhaust;

the screech of tires desperately trying to find grip; the cursing and horn blowing induced by having to share the road with moronic motorists; the gluck-gluck of a kid throwing up in her child seat.

One of the newer automotive sounds is the "sound trademark."

A lot of these signature sounds typically end a radio or TV spot, like those quick electronic notes that say "Intel." They're an audio equivalent of a visual logo, if you will. Well-known examples are the Macintosh start-up chime, the 20th Century Fox "Fanfare" and

the NBC chimes.

On the automotive scene, BMW has been the most active "audio logo" practitioner. Its "double gong" logo sound has been around for 14 years. But a couple of weeks ago, BMW revealed a new audio calling card destined to replace the double-gong.

I've listened to this new sound several times and find it hard to describe.

This is how a BMW press release describes it: "Reverse technology is used to play sound elements forward and backwards in a way that symbolizes flexible mobility.

The melody is introduced by a rising, resonant sound and underscored by two distinctive bass tones that form the sound logo's melodic and rhythmic basis. The sounds build toward a shimmering, sophisticated finish. This combination of different elements represents the joy of progress, of dynamism, and Sheer Driving Pleasure."

The description begs two pertinent questions...

"Huh?"
And, "You can accomplish all that (whatever that is) in less than two seconds of sound?"

Frankly, I prefer the old

double-gong and/or Audi's audio logo, which is comprised of a couple of quick and amped up "heart beats."

A few years ago Mercedes-Benz tried a "choir boy" sound logo, then dropped it and never replaced it.

Harley-Davidson tried for years to trademark the sound of its V-twin engines, but eventually gave up after deciding it wasn't worth spending more money with no end in sight.

So it doesn't seem to be for everyone. I don't foresee a time when all automakers will have an audio logo, but you never know.

Apparently note sequences work well as audio logos because once they become familiar, you only have to hear a couple of the notes before your brain wants/needs to finish the sequence.

Like McDonald's "Bah dah bah bah bah ... I'm loving it."

For that reason, if I were ever to design an audio logo for a super hot car, it would include a second or two of screeching tires and manic engine howling followed immediately by someone yelling "Holy! ..." Your brain would easily fill in an appropriate second word.



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Check up vital on stylish R8

Second Gear.

2010 to 2012
Audi R8

JUSTIN
PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

When Audi's mid-engine R8 performance car hit the road in 2009, it was pasted in poster form onto the bedroom walls of drooling teenaged car-buffs around the globe while earning a reputation for being an extreme performance machine with incredible driving dynamics and every-day usability.

Feature content included navigation, a Bang and Olufsen stereo system, Bluetooth, MMI Interface, driver computer, heated leather and plenty more. A backup camera with distance sensors was available, too. All models are two-seaters with a trunk in the front and a V8 or V10 engine in the middle.

Common Issues

Start your visit with a used R8 candidate by inspecting the vehicle's tires and brakes. Ensure the seller isn't passing off a set of rubber or brake pads and rotors that are in need of replacement. A tire tread-depth gauge can help. Squealing brakes are a sign of wear and a mechanical inspection at an Audi dealer should be considered mandatory.

Check all interior electronics twice — paying



PHOTO: HANDOUT

attention to the MMI system and ensuring it activates, boots up and manipulates various functions properly. Ensure no "check engine" or "service vehicle" notifications are present in the instrument cluster. Shift the manual transmission quickly, ensuring the clutch "bites" hard, and works without slippage. Some owners report electronic dialing-back of engine power when shifting quickly if the clutch is slipping, which is intended to increase durability. Finally, inspect the R8's paint for signs of blotchiness.

Engine



This range-topping Audi got Quattro AWD teamed to a 4.2 litre, 420-horsepower V8 and a six-speed manual transmission as standard kit. Shoppers could opt for an up-level V10 engine, which bumped displacement to 5.2 litres and horsepower to 525. An "R-Tronic" auto-clutch gearbox was available on both models.

What owners like



Owners love the exclusivity, style, performance and bragging-rights that come as part of the R8's package. Ease of entry and exit and an everyday-comfortable ride are noted.

What owners dislike



Limited cargo storage and a sometimes-fussy MMI interface are among the most common owner complaints.

Verdict

Reliability information is largely inconclusive on used R8 models in the first half of this generation — though they are a hot item in the used market nonetheless. Opt for a model with as much of its factory warranty remaining as possible to be safe. Extended warranty, if available, may protect against high repair bills down the line, too.

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Parts Dept.

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Read the classics



lent artwork and Automobile Quarterly becomes a must-have, must-read book that would be a welcome addition to any enthusiast's library. A one-year subscription costs \$100 a year in Canada and can be ordered at autoquarterly.com

One of the best car-buff books has to be Automobile Quarterly. This richly bound publication, which bills itself as "the connoisseur's publication of motoring — today, yesterday and tomorrow," has been around since 1962, yet rarely advertises beyond its website and doesn't display any advertising within its pages. What you get are expertly written and edited stories about significant automobiles past and present and the people who have contributed to making them great. Throw in some great current and historic photos plus excel-

Give a gearhead ring

A ring with moving parts is sort of a rarity, but it's just the sort of gift that any mechanically inclined car buff would love to wear. Creator Glen Liberman from New York teamed up with "kinetic designer" Ben Hopson in developing the Gear Ring, a fascinating piece of stainless-steel finger jewelry complete with precision-made miniature gears that revolve in unison when the outer rings are turned (perfect for people who always need something handy to fiddle with). The Gear Ring is available in 10 standard sizes (a sizing chart can be downloaded from the company's Web site) and can be shipped worldwide for \$165 US. To watch the video or to order, head over to kinectdesign.com.



Hotrod BBQ sauce

Chrysler's ubiquitous "Hemi" V8 is one of North America's most recognizable engine brands. So it only makes sense that the automaker takes advantage of its notoriety and license the Hemi name for use on other products. Even food, such as the Hemi BBQ sauce that is being marketed by racing-parts specialists Arrington Performance. The contents come in a collectible 18-ounce (530-millilitre) glass jar that will make a great conversation piece at your next dinner or tailgate party. A jar retails for \$6 and can be obtained from shophemi.com.



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Mazzanti's Evantra makes debut to dropping jaws



The Mazzanti Evantra V8. HANDOUT

Exotic Auto. Orders for the lavish V8 now being taken but bring lots of cash and patience

Italian supercar fans now have one more model to lust over.

Italian coachbuilder Mazzanti has formally introduced the Evantra V8 at the 2013 Top Marques Monaco show, having released CAD renderings of the supercar at the end of last year.

Jaws dropped as the vehicle was revealed and

it's no surprise as only five individually personalized units will be handmade in Italy each year, with the bespoke supercar powered by a Corvette-sourced V8 engine capable of blasting out 701hp.

The naturally aspirated engine can propel the Evantra from 0-62 mph in just 3.2 seconds, and thanks to a super strong carbon fibre body, total weight for the Mazzanti Evantra is a paltry 2,866 pounds.

Power from the mid-mounted Corvette engine — which boasts titanium valves and connecting rods — is sent to the rear wheels via a paddle-shifted six-

speed sequential transmission.

F1 and Le Mans consultant Ysim helped to fine-tune the car's design for optimal aerodynamic efficiency, while highlights of the chassis include 20-inch OZ alloys, Brembo brakes (with optional carbon-ceramics), and electronic adjustment of the engine and transmission ranging from Strada to Corsa.

There are also two body choices: Pro-Body is made of carbon-fibre composite, and the One-Body is made of aluminum, which can be personalized to customer's exact specifications resulting in a one-off finish.

The interior is swathed in leather prepared with a special aniline treatment, and can be customized with a range of options including exotic leather and precious materials.

The centre console sports data acquisition system from AIM and a Bosch audio-navigation system, while the Tricolore engine start button can be found on the headliner and the Nardi steering wheel contains a small display indicating the current gear.

Each Evantra takes months to complete and will doubtless come with a seven-figure price tag.

WHEELS.CA

Spring cleaning

Three simple steps to make your car shine

There's no time like spring to clean your car and get it ready for the sunny open road. To get the best car shine for the new season, Autoglym recommends the

following steps:

Step 1 – Wash

Wash your vehicle regularly; doing so will help to preserve the finish of your car's paintwork. Avoid household detergents as they can have a dulling effect on your paintwork. Instead, use a product designed for car washing.

Step 2 – Polish

Many of us tend to skip the polishing step and go straight to waxing — don't make this common mistake. Polishing not only corrects paintwork and rectifies imperfections such as light scratches and swirl marks, but it also restores colour and shine.

Step 3 – Protect

Waxing is an important final touch to protect your car's paintwork against harmful environmental factors such as bird droppings and sap. Unlike polish, waxing contains no cleaning or restoring agents and should only be used to seal in the result achieved from polishing.

NEWS CANADA

Mazda's warning system helps you toe the line

Futuristic. Handy camera-aided lane departure safety feature gives driver extra piece of mind

JIL
MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

When you're driving, even a moment's inattention can be dangerous or even deadly. Drivers always have a responsibility to focus on the task, but many automakers add an extra measure of safety with several devices, including Mazda's lane departure warning system.

"It's a camera-based system that visually detects the lane markings," says Sandra

Lemaitre, national manager of public relations for Mazda Canada. "It looks for white lines, continuous or dotted, and works on pattern recognition."

Mounted on the inside of the windshield at the base of the rear-view mirror, the camera looks ahead, just as the driver does. When it "sees" a white line, the system compares it to the patterns in its program, confirming that it is the correct width and length to actually be a line. The system works at speeds above 65 km/h.

If the driver slowly veers out of the lane, the system will sound a warning. Depending on how the driver has set the selectable warning, this will sound either when the car gets close to the white line, or actually touches it. The warning can also be chosen by the driver: either a beep, or a digit-

al sound profile that mimics the sound of tires going over rumble strips. Depending on which side of the car crosses the line, the rumble strip sound will come out of the left or right stereo speaker, overriding any music that's playing.

The warning system is designed to identify inattention, rather than intent. It will not warn if the driver has the turn signal on, or if he or she moves

the wheel sharply. "It will determine that you did this on purpose," Lemaitre says. "It's looking for a pattern of behaviour that indicates inattention. If I'm not paying attention, or perhaps falling asleep, I'll tend to slowly drift out of my lane."

The windshield-mounted camera is part of Mazda's i-ActivSense system, which also uses radar and lasers for technologies that will adjust the cruise

control speed when following other vehicles, turn the high-beam headlights on or off, warn an inattentive driver if a car has stopped ahead, and at low speeds, brake the vehicle if necessary to avoid a collision. "All of the technologies are there to aid the driver, not be in place of the driver," Lemaitre says. "We're a driver's brand so we don't want to automate the driving experience."

Quoted

"All the technologies are there to aid the driver, not be in place of the driver."

Sandra Lemaitre, national manager of public relations for Mazda Canada
On the new lane departure system.



This icon will appear if you veer out of your lane. ALL PHOTOS JIL MCINTOSH



The system is included in the above 2014 Mazda model.

Differences

- Some lane departure systems will apply brake pressure on one side of the vehicle, guiding it back into the lane if the driver does not take action when warned.
- Depending on the auto manufacturer, the sensors or cameras for lane departure warning systems may be in the side mirrors or front grille.

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Designers to China: You have our attention

Autopilot. The huge Chinese vehicle market will, inevitably, influence what ends up on our roads



AUTO PILOT
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The Shanghai motor show on this week further confirms the importance of the Chinese market to today's global automakers.

They showed up in droves bearing metaphorical boxes of chocolates and actual concepts and production cars. And why wouldn't they?

Good to be big

China is by far the single largest vehicle market in the world — selling more than 20 million units a year. The next biggest market, the U.S., is about 15 million. GM sells more vehicles in China (about 2.8 million) than it does in America.

Size is just one thing. Potential is another. In the U.S. there are currently 800 cars for every 1,000 people. That's one saturated market. In China, it's currently about 50 to 80 vehicles per every 1,000 people. That's upside with hot sauce. In



The Nissan Friend-ME debuted at this week's Shanghai auto show to possibly woo the world's largest cohort — the 240 million (mostly male) Chinese born in the 1980s, known as the "Balinghou." HANDOUT

five years China's annual market is expected to top 35 million units.

It's a free for all

And what's making automakers even more crazy about China is that the market is still up for grabs. No dominant player. Lots of domestic and foreign players investing in production and retail facilities. Lots of current and future segment races to be won and lost.

Driving the design bus

Net result: A massive amount of intellectual and monetary design capital is being focused on China at the moment, and that

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will reverberate across all global markets.

This is not to say that the Chinese market will darken the design light in other markets, only that what's going on in China will surely influence global design trends. There's no way it can't.

At the very least, we here in the North American market get to "yea or nay" automotive designs that are already fleshed out and/or contemplated for China.

Take for example the Nissan Friend-ME concept, which had its world debut at Shanghai. Nissan says it has been expressly designed to appeal to the

world's largest single market demographic — the approximately 240 million Chinese born in the 1980s, tagged as the "Balinghou."

Because of China's "one child" policy, the majority of the Balinghou demographic are males without siblings. They are in their mid-20s now and ready to buy. (They might be somewhat over parented too, but let's not go there today.)

"Clearly, their tastes will shape automotive trends worldwide for decades to come," said Nissan's product strategy chief, Francois Bancon, in a press release.

Because they grew up without siblings, and leisure time with peers is treasured, Nissan figured the Friend-ME could give these Balinghou males a private-yet-connected space to hang out with peers, and a "balanced" design that allows them to "stand out" and "fit in" at the same time. And speaking to China's growing urbanity, another aim of the design is to be a "confident creature of the night, meant to be seen in bright city lights."

I don't know how much you, or I, have in common with a 20-something male in China, who has no siblings but loads of personal and familial expectations, but if you watch automotive design over the next few years, we might find out.

Complex car components can be costly

Driving force. Auto parts: The more they make, the less they cost

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A car may be expensive to buy, but it's also expensive to build. In addition to the cost of raw materials, plant overhead and labour, automakers also have to consider the design and development of each component.

"Before we stamp out the first part, there are significant costs associated with design, product validation, capital equipment and tooling that must be paid for up front, or agreed to be amortized across the production run," says Patrick Kinsie, executive director

of global business development for Multimatic Inc., which makes various parts for several auto companies.

While simple parts will have relatively smaller start-up costs, the price for complex ones can be astronomical. Developing a completely new engine or transmission can be as much as \$500 million to \$1 billion.

Car companies spread these enormous costs over volume production, including numerous variants. An engine design may stick around for some 15 years, with engineers creating new or differently-sized engines based on its architecture. There will still be considerable cost involved for these, but it will be much less than starting from scratch.

Vehicle platforms are designed so they can be used

Quoted

"There are companies that run profits making a handful of hand-built engines, but they charge a much higher price for them."

Patrick Kinsie, executive director of global business development for Multimatic Inc.

to create several new models with common componentry, spreading the initial cost and recouping it as soon as possible.

Depending on the part, automakers may produce it in-house or work with independent suppliers. There are many ways these companies work together, including the car manufacturer handing over a produc-

tion-ready design for the supplier to build, or providing the size and performance requirements and having the supplier design and develop it, known in the trade as full black-box design.

New designs are initially made into prototypes to make sure they'll work properly, and if they're structural, they will need to be crash-tested. Once the parts are validated, expensive dies are made to stamp them out in large quantities.

"There are companies that run profits making a handful of hand-built engines, but they charge a much higher price for them," Kinsie says. "In a mainstream vehicle, the automaker will want to make it in the millions to get that unit amortization down to a reasonable level."



The production line at parts company Multimatic Inc. PHOTO FROM MULTIMATIC INC.

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

Think before you act and resist the urge to be provocative. You may think you can get away with just about anything but that isn't true, and will be even less true as the week goes on.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

You would like to make an intelligent assessment of a situation but how can you when the facts are confusing? Don't worry. A few days from now everything will be clear and you'll know what to do.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Today's link between Jupiter in your sign and your ruling planet Mercury will encourage you to see things in a more open and optimistic fashion. Life is as good as you want to make it, today and every day.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Take care when dealing with people in positions of power because some of them are in a touchy mood. Wherever possible, keep a distance between you.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

You may have strong opinions about certain issues but if you are smart, you won't make a big deal of them. Even if facts and figures are on your side just keep quiet and let others argue among themselves.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You will say too much today. With your ruler Mercury nicely linked to Jupiter, planet of excess, you just can't keep your mouth shut. And why should you when you're right?

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

According to the planets, you are in the mood to say and do things that shock. That's OK but make sure you know what the possible consequences could be, especially the financial consequences.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You may be feeling quietly confident about your chances but if you are wise you won't take anything for granted over the next 48 hours.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Honesty is your best policy today, even if it means telling a friend something they may not want to hear. Jupiter, your ruler, will help you say it in a way that doesn't hurt their feelings.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

If it feels right to make a snap decision today then do so. Even if you are acting on limited information there is every chance you will reach the right conclusion, and maybe hit the jackpot financially too.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You need to make a decision about your work but you are torn between two different approaches. How do you resolve this dilemma? A second opinion will help you establish your own opinion.

Pisces

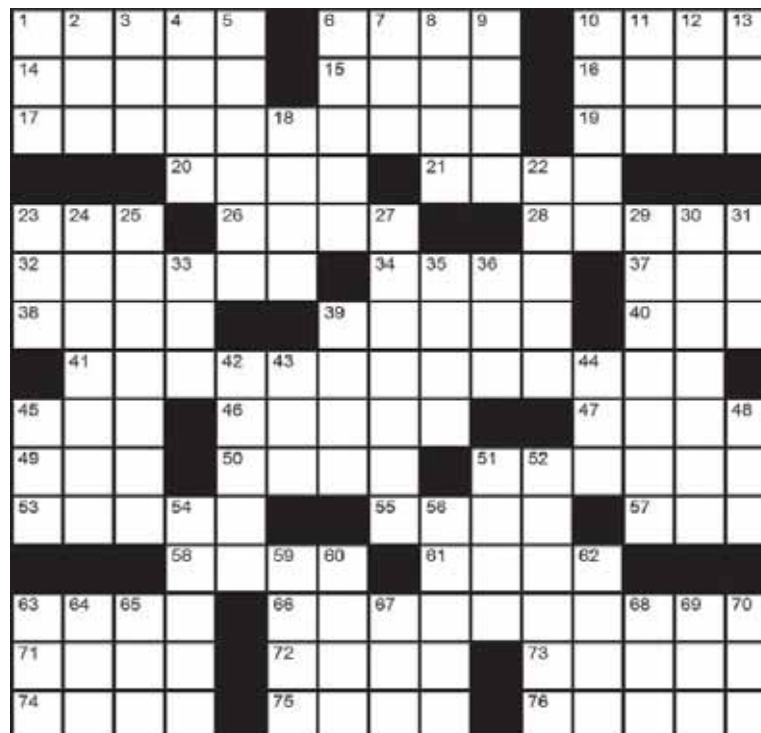
Feb. 20 - March 20

You will need to put on a brave face, especially if you get news that seems to be the opposite of what you were hoping to hear. The key word there is "seems", because most likely it is good news. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

- "___ I Say" by Ray Charles
- Cooking amt.
- Shania Twain's "I ___ No Quitter"
- "Well, golly!"
- Competed, ___ race
- Midday
- Movie reviewer: 2 wds.
- Fair
- Gull-like bird
- Money in Mexico
- World Series org.
- Finales
- ___, Oklahoma
- Tenner, in time
- Scotch stuff; it's sticky
- Job, for short
- Chat
- "Rio" band, when doubled
- Rocker Mr. Adams, to pals
- Who writes Metro's In Focus column?: 2 wds.
- 6's phone letters
- Ornamental containers
- Base
- Eggs come in one [abbr.]
- San __, Italy
- Fabric softener brand
- Fashion mag
- Unaccompanied



- Greek alphabet's 17th letter
- Drawn dog
- Dove sounds
- Canadian telecom company
- On-camera acting audition: 2 wds.
- Seed's protector
- 'Bul' add-on

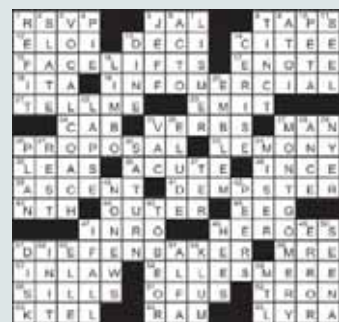
- (Country in Europe)
- "Best ___ Had" by Drake
- Count on
- Trevor ___ (Tony-winning Cats director)
- Antique-style water carriers
- Panda-symbol org.

- Masses, with Polloi
- Pointy tool
- Canadian coffee chain, affectionately
- Like some backyards
- Set of three
- Ghost's pet
- Cut
- Walking speed

- Variety of pear
- Promise to pay
- Yeses opposites
- AC/DC song: "___"
- Written symbol of yore
- Shorthand, shortly
- Summer hrs. in Alberta

- Foo Fighters song: "___ Fly"
- CFL players in the West: acronym + wd.
- MGM and Paramount, and others
- East Coast catch
- Newfoundland rum
- 'Delic' suffix
- US dog org.
- Bows
- ___ excellence
- Snare, for one
- Bible king
- 'Passion' suffix
- Function
- 1200 in ancient Rome
- Tip to 'pia' (Near-sightedness)
- Ice mass
- Canuck coin
- Canadian actress Ms. Parker
- 'Caribbean Queen' singer Billy
- "This ___ unexpected surprise!"
- Light brown
- K-___ ('Twilight' flicks actress, nicknamed)
- Chocolate ___
- Earlier, olde-style
- Abner of comics
- Tin Tin's lead-in
- Adam and ___
- Religious address, briefly
- Mr. Knight's, formerly of "Grey's Anatomy"

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



Weather

TODAY



MAX: 9°
MIN: -3°

THURSDAY



MAX: 10°
MIN: 4°

FRIDAY



MAX: 4°
MIN: 2°



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